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Libby Purves on why politicians' partners should not become props, page 17



20p

# THE TIMES

No. 65,171

MONDAY JANUARY 23 1995

Israeli President says stop negotiating after bomber's attack on bus station

## Calls to end peace talks as 19 die

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

EZER WEIZMAN, the president of Israel, last night dramatically called for an immediate halt to peace negotiations with the Palestinians after one of the worst Islamic suicide attacks inside the Jewish States killed at least 19 people and wounded more than 60, 14 of them seriously.

Most of the victims were young soldiers returning from weekend leave. The attack was

transport into the occupied West Bank then ran towards the bar to help the wounded. "Shortly after that there was another explosion," Kobi Marciano, who was at the scene, said.

Islamic Jihad, one of two militant Islamic groups based in the newly autonomous Gaza Strip, said that two of its suicide bombers carried out the attack. Assaf Hefetz, the chief of police, said the body of one guerrilla had been recovered.

Mr Weizman issued his call after visiting the wounded at one of three hospitals put on emergency footing. "We call it a peace process which we hope to achieve; right now it is a bloody process, and with bloody processes you do not achieve peace," the president said. "I would stop the process now for some time — I would not say for how long — and rethink. Things cannot go on like this." Mr Weizman later attended an emergency Cabinet meeting to review the security crisis. Last night the Israeli government decided to seal off the West Bank and Gaza Strip until further notice, officials said.

Numbered by televised scenes of the carnage caused by the bombs, right-wing Israeli politicians and even some members of the centre-left Government supported the president's call, which al-



Israeli soldiers who were caught up in the blast weeping outside a hospital after helping to carry wounded colleagues inside for treatment

though it had no executive backing carried great moral weight. Mr Weizman is a popular president, and was formerly one of the country's leading doves.

At the scene of the attack, which left pools of blood and dismembered limbs strewn over a wide area, survivors turned their fury on the Government. Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister, who flew to the spot by helicopter, was attacked as a "traitor" and called on to end the talks. One group of hecklers at the site two miles from the peaceful resort of Netanya accused the

Nobel Prize-winner of having "Arab blood".

Amid the chants of "Death to the Arabs", black-coated ultra-orthodox Jews — for whom each part of the body is sacred and must be buried — collected human remains. "I saw bodies in the air, people running to help. But I could not move, I was in shock, hearing terrible screams," Esther Halouf, a teenage soldier being treated for her injuries, said.

"I was for the peace process, but not if there are going to be attacks such as this every few days," Yehzekel Nissim who

missed the explosion by a few seconds, said. Others went further. Abner Shaul, a diamond cutter, said: "We have to throw these Arabs out of here — only the [hardline Israeli] Likud Party can help us now."

The attack coincided with ceremonies to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz. It came hours before the largest gathering of survivors of the camp assembled in Jerusalem to inscribe their names and tattooed numbers in a register. The news of the bombing sent

bigger shock waves through the country than the many similar atrocities that have claimed at least 109 Jewish lives since peace with the Palestine Liberation Organisation was signed 16 months ago. Almost 200 Palestinians have also been killed.

The claim that the guerrillas came from Gaza brought more public pressure on Mr Rabin to rethink the peace process with Yasser Arafat, the PLO chief, who is responsible for security in Gaza.

Mr Arafat, who like Rabin has staked his political life on the self-rule accord, con-

demned the attack by the "enemies of peace".

Government ministers were divided over whether the talks should be halted. Among those who rejected the idea was Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister. "Clearly this is a further strain on the peace process," he said, "but this is not a reason to stop it." Members of Mr Rabin's Labour party voiced doubts about the negotiations although they stopped short of calling for them to be suspended.

Death camp survivors, page 6  
Call for revenge, page 10

## Stagg is arrested after 'axe attack' on common

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

COLIN STAGG, who was last year cleared of murdering Rachel Nickell, was arrested yesterday on Wimbledon Common, southwest London, after being accused of threatening another man and his son with an axe.

Stagg was arrested with a 26-year-old woman after a complaint that a man had brandished the weapon at a 30-year-old man and his son aged 11.

Police were called by rangers on the common at 9.12 am after an incident, said to have followed a disagreement between dogs being walked. Scotland Yard said "There was no apparent motive for the assault."

Stagg and the woman were taken for questioning. Police divers searched the Queen's Mere in vain for the axe.

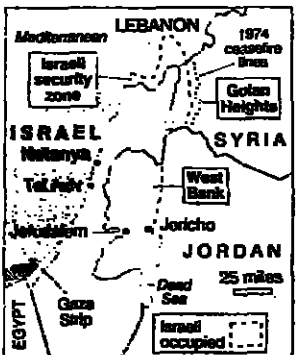
The complainant left the police station with his son in



Stagg questioned

the afternoon after apparently making a witness statement. He appeared agitated.

Mr Stagg, 31, was charged with murdering Nickell, but the case was aborted last year on the orders of an Old Bailey judge. Police and the Crown Prosecution Service were criticised for using a policewoman posing as a lonely hearts correspondent to lure Mr Stagg into confessing.



doubly deadly because a second blast at a bus station was detonated ten minutes after the first a few metres away at a hitchhiking station, causing mayhem among the many people who had rushed to attend the wounded from the first attack.

Israeli security officials said that a snack bar near where the bombs were planted was blown apart by the first explosion. Soldiers waiting for

### Storms bring roads havoc

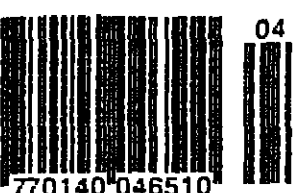
Snow showers, heavy rain and gales caused flooding and traffic jams yesterday, with forecasters predicting more of the same today. Scores of sports events were cancelled. Flooding closed roads in Somerset, and in Scotland and Cumbria deep snow meant that even major routes were passable only with care. Page 22

### Cantona heads United winner

Eric Cantona was again Manchester United's hero when his splendid header gave United a 1-0 win over Blackburn Rovers at Old Trafford yesterday, cutting Rovers' Premiership lead to two points. Page 23

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## Blair puts his leadership on the line over Clause 4

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY Blair clashed with trade union leaders yesterday as he warned that Labour could remain in the political wilderness unless the party ditched its commitment to nationalisation.

The Labour leader refused a demand by Bill Morris, the General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, to pledge that a Labour government would bring water back under public control.

Effectively staking his own position on the success of his attempts to rewrite Clause 4, Mr Blair said that the party had to redefine its identity if it was to win the next election. Social justice must replace public ownership as the cornerstone of Labour's constitution, he said. "It is a choice of

destiny for this party," he told BBC TV's *On the Record*. "We either become that vibrant left-of-centre party, looking forward and addressing the real needs of this country, or we will remain where we have been for 15 years — essentially a pressure group exerting influence on a Conservative Government but not governing ourselves."

Mr Morris used the water issue to raise the stakes over Clause 4 on the eve of Mr Blair's national campaign to persuade party members and trade unionists to back him. The move coincided with warnings by left-wingers that Mr Blair faced a grass roots rebellion over his attempt to tear up the party's nationalisation clause. Mr Morris demanded that the rewritten

clause should give a strong commitment to public ownership and be accompanied by a separate policy document stating which industries should be brought back into public control.

"We want a clear commitment to public ownership. Unless it is clear and unambiguous, then it will not command the support of my union. "So far in the debate I have heard nothing, read nothing, seen nothing, which could remotely meet our minimum requirements," he said. He made clear that this should include both the renationalisation of public utilities.

Continued on page 2, col 4  
Libby Purves, page 17  
Peter Riddell, page 18  
Leading article, page 19

## Inspectors attack primary schools

By BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PRIMARY schools are being exposed as the education system's weakest link by the Government's new inspection regime.

The finding that England's 19,000 primaries are much more likely than secondaries to be officially judged as "failing" will provide ammunition for Her Majesty's Chief Inspector when he launches a crusade this week against the dominance of progressive teaching methods. Chris Woodhead will use the first annual lecture of the Office for Standards in Education on Thursday to question the "unchallenged and untested" orthodoxies that prevail in thousands of primary schools.

Mr Woodhead, who took the job last September, will argue that teachers, oppressed by eight years of sweeping

Conservative education reforms, sought refuge in child-centred teaching methods pioneered in the 1960s. He will assert that the prevailing professional culture must become more open to alternatives if reforms such as the new national curriculum and regular testing are to work.

He is anxious that too many primary teachers dismiss traditional teaching methods and refuse to question current practice. He will call for more lessons to be given to whole classes, instead of leaving different groups in the same class to work at their own speed and often on different subjects.

Mr Woodhead will appeal to teachers to become more in-

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## Four Weddings and an uncool trip to heaven

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

HUGH GRANT, Britain's best hope for an Oscar nomination next month, threw typical English reserve to the winds this weekend when he picked up a Golden Globe award for his role as a reluctant bridegroom in the hit British film *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.

Accepting the prize for the best comedy actor at a ceremony in Hollywood on Saturday, Grant gushed: "It's tragic how much I'm enjoying this, virtually uncool. You're supposed to think awards are invidious but this is heaven."

He also paid tribute to Elizabeth Hurley, his girlfriend, who has attracted as much media attention for not being in the film as he has for being in it. Hurley, whose own film credits include *Beyond Bedlam*, became a media icon last year after arriving at the premiere of *Four*

Weddings wearing "that dress" — a plunging Versace creation.

"I would like to thank my girlfriend Elizabeth Hurley, who put up with easily the nastiest, most ill-tempered prima donna-ish actor in English cinema for six weeks and then came back to me, which was really nice," Grant told an audience of Hollywood celebrities.

His Golden Globe, conferred by the influential Hollywood Foreign Press Association, will greatly boost the actor's chances of winning an Oscar nomination. Competition for this year's Academy Awards will be fierce with nominations expected for John Travolta for his performance in *Pulp Fiction* and Tom Hanks for his role in *Forrest Gump*.

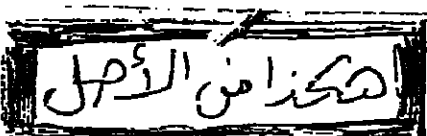
Co-starring the American actress Andie MacDowell and made on a tiny

budget of £4 million, *Four Weddings and a Funeral* is the most successful British film ever. It has taken an estimated £130 million at the box office worldwide, and nearly £30 million in Britain. The record had been held by *A Fish Called Wanda*, which took £41 million worldwide.

The film, which charts a group of wealthy English friends' search for marital bliss, opened in the United States last March to widespread critical acclaim. Its rapturous American reception guaranteed its success in Britain. Written by Richard Curtis, creator of the *Blackadder* television scripts, the film was backed by Channel 4 and Polygram, the Dutch entertainment company. Channel 4 expects to make a return of at



Grant receives his award at the Golden Globe ceremony last Saturday



Chancellor would welcome back rebels 'to support Prime Minister and Government'

## Clarke declares unity with Major over Europe



Clarke: views on Europe "nearer Kohl than Tebbit"

KENNETH CLARKE fuelled Cabinet tensions over Europe yesterday by supporting a single currency, rejecting a referendum and arguing that Britain should work with France and Germany to shape the European Union.

In a strongly pro-European interview, the Chancellor told the present Cabinet line that the rebels should be cajoled back rather than reprimanded. However, speaking on BBC's *Breakfast With Frost*, he made clear that they should be prepared to vote with the Government on most issues, despite their own personal views on Europe.

"I obviously want these colleagues of mine to come back on board. But when you come back on board in a political party you can have the occasional rebellion but by and large you are a member of the Conservative Parliamentary Party in order to support the

**■ The Chancellor annoyed the whipless Tory MPs when he said on television that his views on Europe were 'indistinguishable' from those of the Prime Minister. Jill Sherman reports**

Conservative Prime Minister and the Government."

Mr Clarke annoyed the rebels by his claims that his views on Europe were "indistinguishable" from those of John Major. Over the last few weeks the rebels have been heartened by what they claim is a more Euro-sceptic approach from the Prime Minister.

Yesterday Mr Clarke denied that he was a Euro-sceptic, said his views were much nearer those held by Chancellor Kohl of Germany than Norman Tebbit, and said he would support a single currency if the conditions were right. He

dismissed any suggestion that he was at odds with the Prime Minister.

"I think John's views on Europe are indistinguishable from mine. We work very closely. I have always felt we have an exactly similar approach to Europe," he said.

Sir Teddy Taylor, one of the eight whipless rebels who published their own manifesto on Europe last week, welcomed Mr Clarke's conciliatory comments but claimed his views on Europe were unacceptable to the rebels and out of line with those expressed by Mr Major.

"Like all ministers he is very kind, but his views on monetary union and closer integration are a bit out of touch with those of ordinary voters and those within the Conservative party," Sir Teddy said.

The Chancellor's comments followed reports that Mr Major had turned his back on his "inner cabinet" and promised to consult all members of the Cabinet over EC policy. Although cabinet sources have played down any talk of a rift between Mr Clarke and Mr Major, some rightwingers are concerned about Mr Clarke's role in the inner cabinet's decision to make the Commons vote on a higher payments to the EC an issue of confidence last November.

The inner core of ministers includes Douglas Hurd, Mr Clarke, Malcolm Rifkind, Michael Howard, Michael Heseltine and Tony Newton. It excludes however

the Cabinet's most Euro-sceptic ministers: Jonathan Aitken, the Treasury Chief Secretary, has made the most conciliatory noises to the rebels to encourage them back into the fold.

Michael Portillo, the Euro-sceptic Employment Secretary, yesterday said it would be the most "natural thing in the world for the rebels to take whip again and I hope that will happen before too long".

Speaking on Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*, he said the Prime Minister had laid the groundwork for reconciliation by pledging to block any moves towards political union by the inter-governmental conference in 1996 and ruling out monetary union in 1997.

"There is nothing that the Prime Minister has said about his approach over the coming years with

which these people could disagree. The Prime Minister has set out a programme on which these people could be content and therefore I believe he has laid the basis for reunification."

John Redwood, the Welsh Secretary, yesterday provoked protests from environmentalists over proposals to contract out the protection of the countryside, including Snowdon, to private hands. Labour accused Mr Redwood of conducting a "dangerous experiment" with the national heritage of Wales and launched a campaign to keep Snowdonia and 50 other nature reserves under public control.

A spokesman for the Welsh Office confirmed that there had been a review of the Countryside Council for Wales's activities. Mr Redwood has been accused of putting pressure on it to make spending cuts.

## Saboteurs who stoned pub seen at port protest

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

MASKED hunt saboteurs who stoned a pub at the weekend when the landlady refused to serve drinks to a group of men from a white van. She said the attack later that evening had been terrifying and she narrowly escaped injuries from flying glass.

"I was shaking with fear," she said. "Every window in the front went except my lounge, where I was sitting. If that had not had double glazing, which did not break, my face could have been cut to pieces. My barmaid came in screaming with a blanket over her head and her clothes covered in broken glass."

Mrs Monte, 68, added: "We refused to serve the saboteurs and they must have decided to come back after dark when we were closed. Our barman saw the same van that had been around when the hunt met. There is no-one else who would have a grudge." The pub reopened yesterday.

The hunt master's wife, Mrs Jan Hill, said: "This marks a frightening escalation in the activities of the saboteurs. The place was apparently targeted because some people in the pub had been with the hunt."

□ A dead calf with its throat cut was dumped at the home of a leading animal welfare campaigner yesterday near Llandysul, Dyfed.



Forty-eight caravans on two sites in Tywyn, Mid Wales, were wrecked by a whirlwind at the weekend

## Rain and high winds wreak havoc

SNOW showers, heavy rain and gales caused flooding and traffic jams yesterday with forecasters predicting more of the same today. Scores of sports events were cancelled (Marianne Curphey writes).

Flooding closed roads in Somerset, while in Scotland and Cumbria deep snow made even major routes passable only with care. High winds closed a number of bridges to high-sided vehicles, caravans and motorcyclists, and police shut the Severn Bridge for three hours while engineers removed a lorry which had

been blown over. The driver was unhurt. Traffic backed up for ten miles on the M4 and thousands of vehicles had to take a 100-mile detour through the Forest of Dean.

A whirlwind wrecked 48 caravans on two sites on the Welsh coast at Tywyn on Saturday afternoon. The caravans were torn from their anchorages and damage is expected to run into hundreds of thousands of pounds. None of the caravans was occupied and no one was hurt.

On Saturday, five Premier League football matches were

called off because of water-logged pitches. Racing at Newton Abbot today and at Leicester tomorrow has been cancelled, and Lingfield may not go ahead. Over half rugby club fixtures were cancelled and four were abandoned.

In Tipton, West Midlands, 100 people were evacuated from their homes after gale force winds ripped the roofs off three blocks of maisonettes.

The London Weather Centre said that it would feel very cold today, with temperatures unlikely to reach more than 7C in the north and 8C in

the south, and strong winds, gale force around the coast. More rain is forecast.

Skiers braved blizzards and high winds in Scotland but gusting winds of up to 80mph closed all ski-runs at Aonach Mor, Cairngorm Glencoe. Almost 700 skiers turned out at Glenshee where the four most sheltered lifts stayed open in winds of about 30mph.

In Somerset, two 23-year-old men were killed when their car crashed in heavy rain at Staple Fitzpaine.

Forecast, page 22

## Lawyers to act over royal housekeeper

Lawyers are expected to take action after another royal servant's claims about the private lives of the Prince and Princess of Wales appeared in a newspaper yesterday. Buckingham Palace declined to comment on the revelations by Wendy Berry, the Prince's housekeeper at his Highgrove home for nine years, but it is thought that an injunction banning further revelations, either by newspapers or a planned book, will be sought in the High Court as soon as possible.

The Prince's solicitor obtained an injunction against his valet Ken Stronach on Friday after claims about the Prince and Camilla Parker Bowles appeared last weekend.

## Politics bores the young

Nearly half of Britain's younger generation has little or no interest in politics and a third sees no reason ever to become interested, according to a survey of young people's attitudes. The poll, commissioned by BBC Radio 1, shows that 47 per cent of 15 to 35-year-olds claim to be "not very" or "not at all" interested, found politicians untrustworthy and felt helpless to change things.

## CSA faces shake-up

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, will today announce a shake-up of the Child Support Agency including a scheme to give mothers on benefit some of the money secured from absent partners, if they find a job. Plans in a White Paper include a right of appeal against assessments and greater account to be taken of clean-break settlements, second families and travel to work costs.

## Murder hunt plea

Police hunting the killer of the Cardiff schoolgirl Claire Hood, right, have appealed to an anonymous telephone caller who may have vital clues to contact them again. The plea came as the girl's heavily-sedated mother, Pam Bennett, issued a statement through the police calling on anyone who may be protecting the killer to turn him in.



## Postal strike ends

The Royal Mail will try to clear a backlog of around 15 million letters today after postal workers in northwest London last night called off their dispute over a new computer system. Sealed pillar boxes will be reopened and services should be back to normal by the end of the week. The dispute led to sympathy strikes by 13,000 workers around the capital on Friday.

## TV companies criticised

A group of leading charities, including Save the Children, Oxfam and Christian Aid, has criticised the BBC and ITV for cutting back their coverage of international affairs. The Third World and Environment Broadcasting Project claims that the broadcasters have reduced their output on international affairs by 40 per cent in five years.

## Patient's body found

The partially decomposed body of a patient who went missing at St Thomas's Hospital, London, before Christmas has been found under piping, hospital officials confirmed yesterday. Carlos Padilla, 40, disappeared after a major operation on December 20 wearing only his dressing gown. His death is not believed to be suspicious.

## Brighton venue of bliss

Brighton Pavilion's luxurious Red Drawing Room, famed for its dragon wallpaper and Chinese oil paintings, is likely to become a venue for weddings. Leisure promoters have applied for a licence under the Marriage Act, which comes into force in April, allowing civil weddings to take place in buildings other than register offices.

## Slater rape disclosure



Stephanie Slater, left, the estate agent kidnapped and imprisoned in a coffin by convicted murderer Michael Sams, has said she was raped by him while handcuffed and blindfold. Miss Slater, who describes the rape in a new book, *Beyond Fear*, says she hid the details because she feared the truth would devastate her family and friends.

## Black pudding flies high

Black pudding is to be served on Concorde for the first time this week. British Airways announced yesterday. The delicacy is being supplied by a Scottish family butcher, Grants of Dornoch in the Highlands, which had gone into receivership when the pudding was tasted by a BA chef on holiday in the area. He ordered 700lbs for passengers.

## Labour clash

Continued from page 1  
ation of the water industry and Britain's railways if they were privatised. He hinted, however, that he would be satisfied with greater regulation for the other privatised utilities, such as gas and electricity.

Mr Blair said he was utterly opposed to the privatisation of water, electricity and rail, but that the party had to be realistic about what could be done to reverse them.

"I think it would be utterly folly to spend billions of pounds on renationalising the water industry," he said. He also admitted that full renationalisation of the railways might not be possible if the Government had already privatised large chunks of British Rail. "We are not in the business of spraying around guarantees and commitments until we have seen exactly what the Government has done," he said. "The centrepiece of the new Clause 4 should be our basic belief in the values that underpin Labour, which are not values about public ownership, but to do with the nature of society."

Mr Blair admitted tacitly that he was putting his leadership on the line over the issue. "You don't embark on a change as serious as this unless you are really aware of the consequences," he said. John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, gave his full backing to Mr Blair and Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, will be another powerful ally. But left-wingers moved quickly to defend a commitment which they see as fundamental to socialist principles.

Libby Purves, page 17  
Peter Riddell, page 18  
Leading article, page 19

## Primaries attacked

Continued from page 1  
tellectually rigorous in assessing the effectiveness of different teaching techniques, rather than demanding the wholesale and immediate adoption of traditional methods. But he is convinced that primary schools need to use more specialist-subject teachers. He is also concerned that teachers can rely too heavily on asking pupils questions and praising them, when instruction and feedback would achieve more.

The chief inspector is expected to emphasise the urgent need for improvement in a fortnightly annual report next week. Inspectors concluded last year that a third of state-school pupils aged eight to 11 achieved less than they could, mainly because lessons were insufficiently challenging.

The first round of primary inspections under the new freelance system, which ensures that each school is reported on every four years, has revealed further problems, according to figures seen by *The Times*. Since primary inspections began last year, at least 11 of the 778 schools visited have been found to be failing their pupils.

The figure is likely to rise because some schools said by the freelance inspectors to require "special measures" have yet to have the verdict officially confirmed by a second team. Of six schools named as failing, three are in London with the others in Humberside, Walsall and Nottingham.

The primary failure rate compares badly with secondary schools where, after more than 1,200 inspections, only 12 schools have been found to require intervention.

Education, pages 37-38

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Colleague survives with broken ribs

# Avalanche sweeps mountaineer 700ft to his death

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

MOUNTAIN rescue teams battled through the night in appalling weather yesterday to save an injured climber who had been swept 700 feet down a Scottish mountain by an avalanche that killed his colleague.

Almost 40 military and civilian rescuers combined in the eight-hour operation to rescue Graham Frost, 24, one of six climbers who set out in apparently good conditions to climb a 3,450 foot peak in northern Scotland. The weather closed in so quickly that an RAF helicopter was unable to pick him up as he huddled in his survival bag and rescuers had to reach him on foot. He was taken to hospital in Inverness suffering from severe bruising to his chest and ribs. Michael Clark, a student from Anglesey, is believed to have died instantly in the fall.

Members of the Torridon Mountain Rescue Team climbed for 2½ hours through deep snow to reach the men and a further 5½ to carry them down to a waiting ambulance. The alarm was raised just after 8pm on Saturday night by two members of the expedition up the north side of Liathach mountain in Wester Ross. They had walked three miles to their car and then driven three miles to a telephone box. He called police based at Dingwall, Highland. Two others had stayed with Mr Clark and Mr Frost.

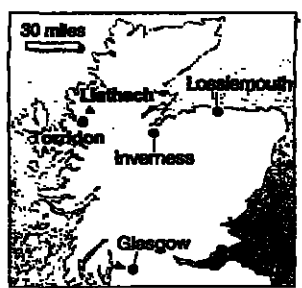
An RAF search and rescue Sea King helicopter was launched from RAF Lossiemouth and the Torridon Mountain Rescue Team was alerted. A mountain rescue team from RAF Kinloss, which was on a training exercise in the area, joined them.

The helicopter took two hours to reach the mountain but was unable to land because of strong winds and poor visibility. A spokesman for the RAF co-ordination centre in Fife said: "The heli-

copter was of limited use because of the weather conditions. There was snow, thick cloud, strong winds, hill fog and severe low level turbulence." The helicopter was eventually grounded and the rescue crew were forced to spend the night locally before flying back to base on Sunday morning.

Thirty-nine rescuers continued up the mountain on foot. They found the dead and injured men and the other two members of the team in a quarry near the summit on the north side of the mountain which is popular with snow and ice climbers in winter.

Seamus McNally, leader of the Torridon Rescue Team, said the climbers were very cold but in reasonable condi-



tion. He added that even if the helicopter had been able to get through, the man who died could not have been saved. It took rescuers nearly six hours to get the men off the hills. "The snow conditions were across were not too bad but it was wet snow which made it heavy going and the weight of the stretchers made the return journey a bit longer," Mr McNally said.

He said Mr Frost suffered rib and chest injuries and had a black eye. "Other than that he was not too bad. He was very lucky." Conditions for ice climbing in the area at the time the team set out were good, Mr McNally said.

"When we got up there were no problems. We were not worried about the conditions we came across. Had the

group decided to go only so far and abseil back down I think they would have been fine. But obviously they wanted to make it to the top and that was where they became unstuck."

Cameron Macleay, 55, a mountain guide and the Torridon team's training officer, said: "We gave first aid and were joined by 15 from the RAF Kinloss team who had been on exercise in Lochcarron. Unfortunately it was too late for one of the casualties."

Mr Macleay said that three parties of two had completed the "extremely difficult" ice climb route on Liathach. "They were very well equipped and obviously experienced. They would not have completed that route otherwise."

The other members of the expedition team, thought to be in their twenties, spent the night at the Torridon Youth Hostel and were making their way home yesterday. The death of Mr Clark is the third on Scottish hills this year but it is the first mountaineering accident. The other two deaths were from medical conditions. One man suffered a heart attack and the other died during an epileptic fit.

Last year was one of the safest years for mountaineers in Scotland. There were 28 deaths, including heart attacks and suicides. In 1993, the worst year on record, 62 people died on the hills.

Alf Ingram, of the Mountain Rescue Committee for Scotland, said the figures were improving. "In 1983 there were more than 40 deaths but since then the number of people using the hills has increased by over 40 per cent. The number of accidents per man-hour on the hills has actually fallen quite dramatically."

Two of the last three fatalities on the 3,456ft hill in the last few years have been as a result of avalanches. A police report about the tragedy is being sent to the Dingwall procurator fiscal.



Derek Meddings, above, a special effects supervisor, recreates Siberia for Pierce Brosnan and the latest Bond girl, Izabella Scorupco

## Bond makes no secret of the service from Watford

By Dalva Alberge, Arts Correspondent

FROM Watford With Love may lack the glamour of some of 007's more customary locations, but yesterday's mission for the world's favourite spy was to reveal how a former factory in Hertfordshire has become an impressive film set.

James Bond's 17th action adventure, *Goldeneye*, is billed as the most ambitious production to date of the 007 series. Sixty per cent of the \$32 million film is being shot in a cavernous former Rolls-Royce factory spanning 1.25 million square feet, in which the wartime Mosquito bomber was designed, because the country's other studios are fully booked.

As many as 25 different sets, ranging from an underground radar tracking centre

to buildings in St Petersburg, will be built and, as this is Bond, blown up.

Yesterday, remote-control model helicopters were flying over a craggy Siberian landscape made of polystyrene, self-raising flour and cat litter. Photographs the size of cinema screens completed the illusion. But filmgoers will not be able to see the join when the film is released in time for the Christmas audiences in December.

Pierce Brosnan is the good-looking Irish actor who takes the lead. A more politically correct Bond for the 1990s is promised although, even with the script, remaining top secret, no one expects the romantic hero to have to make the beds as well as lie in them. "He does not smoke."

for example," said a spokesman. Brosnan was already in character, well-tailored and sipping champagne. Facing an army of 300 reporters, he seemed frustrated to be asked about how Bond has been updated. Stopping out of character, he said of the question: "It's boring."

Bond's leading lady, Natalya, is played by a Polish-born actress, Izabella Scorupco. 24. *Goldeneye* is her English-speaking debut and she has previously appeared only in Swedish films.

The film also stars the Scottish actor Robbie Coltrane, who plays a KGB controller turned ruthless Russian arms dealer.

*Goldeneye* awards, page 1



## Harvey Smith arrested after three die in horsebox crash

By Paul Wilkinson

A BOY aged seven was critically ill last night with injuries suffered in a road crash that killed his father and two other people and involved Harvey Smith, the former international showjumper.

Daniel Larvin saw his father Ernie crushed to death beside him in the back seat of a car that collided with the rear of Mr Smith's horsebox. Fire crews called to the scene to cut out the victims did not initially know he was inside the wreckage and it was several minutes after the last body was released that they discovered him under a seat. Last night he was in a critical condition with head injuries in Leeds General Infirmary.

Friends say he was saved from instant death by another passenger, Andrew Fulcher, who threw himself across Daniel seconds before the impact. Mr Fulcher, 17, escaped with only a cut finger, but the driver and his front-seat passenger died instantly.

After the accident on Saturday evening police arrested Mr Smith on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving. A breathalyser test proved negative and after five hours of questioning he was released on bail without charge. He was ordered to

return in four weeks. Yesterday Mr Smith, 56, was at his training yard at High Eldwick near Bingley, West Yorkshire. He declined to comment.

Police said the accident happened as Mr Smith drove his horsebox from a slip-road off the A59 York to Harrogate road near Allerton Park in North Yorkshire. It was hit from behind by a Ford Escort travelling on the A59.

The car was taking members of a village soccer team home after their match had been called off. Daniel had

gone to watch with his father, 36, the team skipper who is a caretaker at a school four miles from the crash scene in Knaresborough. Mr Smith had been returning with two horses from Catterick races.

Police named the other two victims yesterday as the driver Andy Gowland, 30, who lived with his brother in Seacroft, Leeds, and Gary Hayton, 30, a sports centre manager who lived with his girlfriend at Garforth near Leeds.

At his home in Knaresborough, Mr Fulcher said "I knew something was

going to happen when I saw this huge wagon right across the road in front of us. I dived on to the little kid to try and save him. Looking after Danny was all I could think of. Suddenly there was a terrific smash and I seemed to wake up sitting upright in the car with all this wreckage and bodies all around me. I didn't really want to look. I was all right, just helpless and dazed. Somehow I managed to open the rear door and jump out of the car.

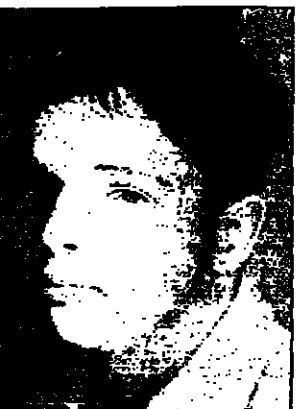
"I rolled down an embankment and wandered around not knowing where I was. It was a miracle I escaped with only a cut finger. I didn't know what had happened to Danny. I must be the luckiest man alive."

He said driving conditions were bad because of heavy rain and strong winds. He did not believe their car was travelling very fast. The group was returning home after playing for Hamerton United, the team from the village of Kirk Hamerton four miles from the crash scene. Their match had been abandoned at half-time because of the weather.

Inquests on the dead men are expected to be opened today.



A breath test on Smith, left, proved negative. Right: Andrew Fulcher, who tried to save a child's life



## Four Weddings and a trip to heaven

Continued from page 1  
least £4 million from its £400,000 investment. *Four Weddings* won the best film award last year at the Writer's Film Guild of Great Britain awards and is tipped for a British Academy of Film and Television Arts award.

Miranda Richardson won the best supporting actress Golden Globe for her performance in *Fatherland*, the television film based on the book by Robert Harris. *Forrest Gump* took the award for the best film of 1994, with Tom Hanks receiving best actor prize for his eponymous hero and Robert Zemeckis being named best director. Jessica Lange was named best actress for her role in *Blue Sky*. Walt Disney's *The Lion King* took awards for the best musical or comedy film, the best original score and the best original song.

□ Toby Stephens, the son of Sir Robert Stephens and Dame Maggie Smith, was

last night named the most promising newcomer in the Shakespeare Globe Awards. Stephens won the Richard Burton Award for his performance in the lead role of *Coriolanus*. The actor has also appeared in *The Canon* and *The Bridge*, by Arthur Miller.

At the awards ceremony, at the Savoy in London, Stephen Dillane won the Sir John Gielgud Award for best actor for his performance of Hamlet at the Gielgud Theatre. Dillane, whose television credits include *You, Me and It*, *The Rector's Wife* and *Soldier Soldier*, also appeared in the Franco Zeffirelli film version of *Hamlet*.

It was the third annual Shakespeare Globe Awards and the first since the death of Sam Wanamaker, the American actor and director who founded them. His daughter Zoe Wanamaker presented the Sam Wanamaker Award

for the most outstanding contribution to Elizabethan and Jacobean theatre to Leon Garfield for *The Animated Tales of Shakespeare*. Garfield's first book, *Jack Holborn*, was published in 1964 and he has won many awards for his novels since then, including a Whitbread award for *John Diamond*.

Barrie Rutter, who has appeared in *Porridge*, *Minder*, *Casualty* and *The Bill*, as well as many classical stage roles, won the Sir Tyrone Guthrie award for his production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, for Northern Broadsides.

The Peter Brook award for best director went to Peter Zadek for *Anthony and Cleopatra*, which won a critics' award at last year's Edinburgh Festival. Emma Fielding won the Dame Peggy Ashcroft award for best actress for performances in *Twelfth Night* and John Ford's *The Broken Heart* at the RSC.

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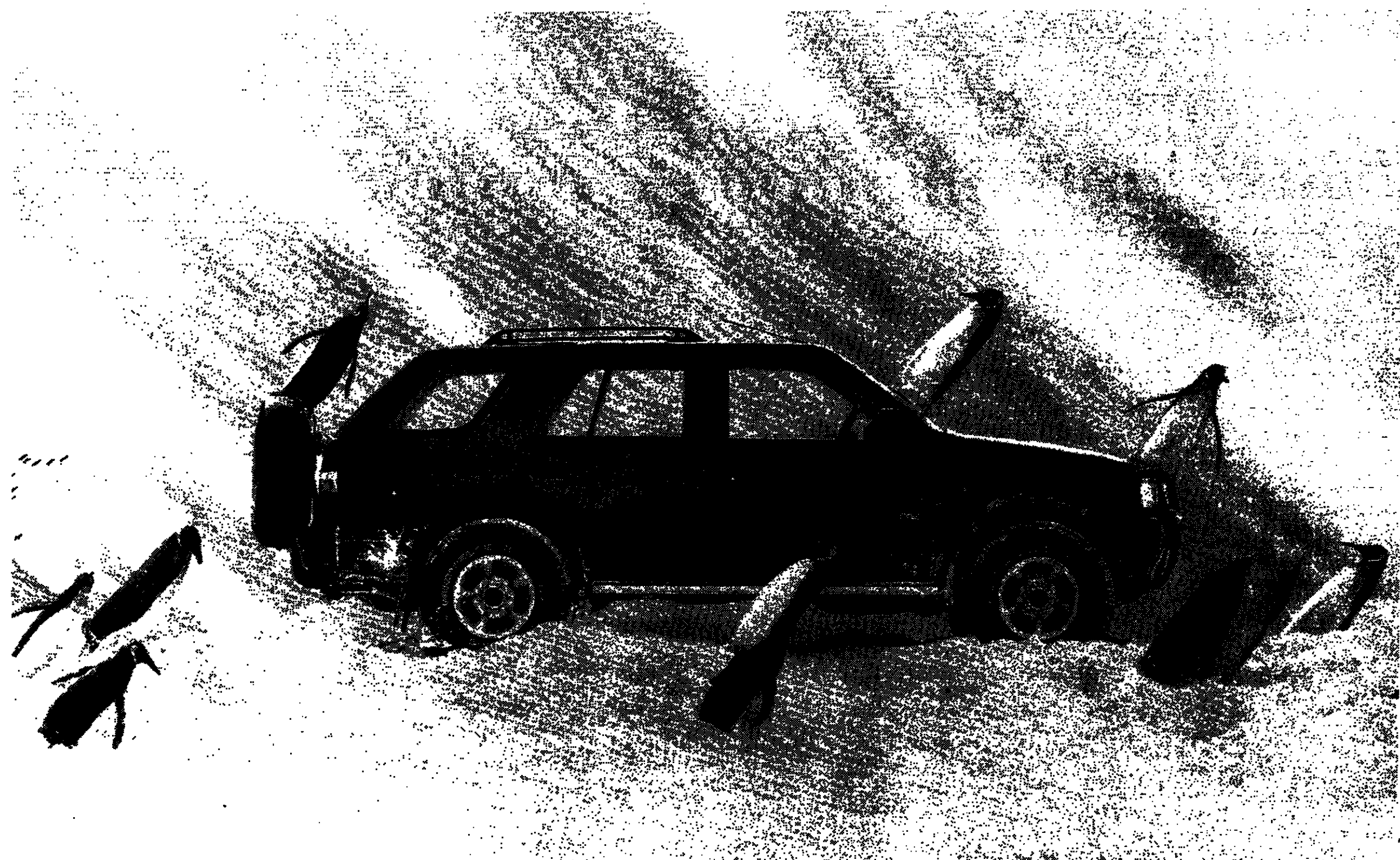
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Sinn Fein and loyalists demand early release as cardinal warns of return to conflict

## Jailed terrorists take centre stage in peace process

By NICHOLAS WATT and RICHARD FORD

AN UNLIKELY alliance of Sinn Fein and the loyalist political parties has warned the Government that the peace process will be jeopardised unless terrorist prisoners are released as a reward for the ceasefires. Sinn Fein held rallies over the weekend to demand the release of prisoners, and the loyalists regard the issue as so important they devoted their last round of talks with the Government to it.

The prisoners' fate is one of

the issues that will determine the success of the Government's present round of exploratory talks with Sinn Fein and the two loyalist parties, the Progressive Unionists and the Ulster Democratic Party.

Terrorist prisoners, who account for 65 per cent of the 1,800 prisoners in Northern Ireland, played pivotal roles in the ceasefires. Campaigners point to three mechanisms that could be used to free, or reduce the sentences of, those

held in Northern Ireland. The first is to release life sentence inmates on licence; the second is to change the rules on remission; and the third is to extend home leave.

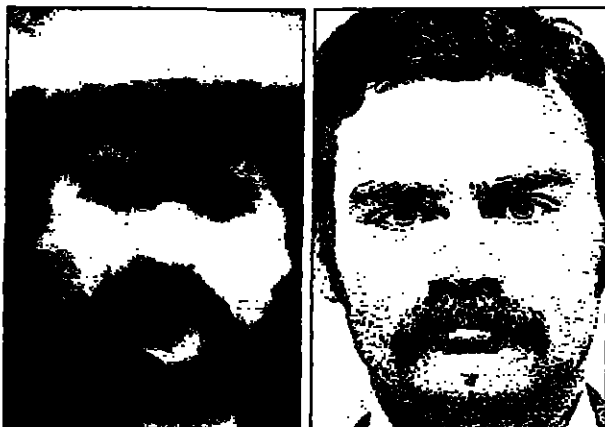
The system is less flexible for prisoners sentenced in England and Wales. Although the Government has agreed to transfer some republican inmates from England to Northern Ireland, it has voiced concern that those serving long sentences could have them substantially reduced.

There are conditions under which prisoners sentenced in England and Wales can be released. Mandatory life sentence prisoners have their case reviewed after ten years and then three years before the minimum term set by the Home Secretary. Discretionary life sentence prisoners have their sentence reviewed about three years before the expiry of the minimum term.

Inmates given a fixed-term sentence, who were jailed before the 1991 Criminal Justice Act, can be released on parole after serving one third of their sentence. But anyone sentenced after the Act came into force in October 1992 serves half before becoming eligible for parole and is then automatically released after serving two thirds.

Among those who could benefit from a change in the rules is Patrick Magee, who is serving eight life sentences for planning the Brighton bomb at the 1984 Conservative Party conference that killed five people. He is one of eight IRA inmates who have been transferred from England to Northern Ireland.

Michael Stone is serving three life sentences at the Maze prison for murdering three people at the funeral of the IRA "Gibraltar Three" in Belfast in 1988.



Stone, a loyalist prisoner, left, and the IRA's Magee, both serving multiple life sentences

### Dublin attempts to bolster framework

DICK Spring, Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister, spoke yesterday against watering down the Anglo-Irish framework document on the future of Northern Ireland to satisfy Unionists (Nicholas Watt writes).

His comments came after James Molyneux, the leader of the Ulster Unionists, claimed that London and Dublin were planning to introduce a form of joint British

and Irish authority over the Province. Mr Spring said both Governments had ruled that out.

"If we were now to set out to water down the framework document I think we would then end up with a lowest common denominator. That would not be helpful to anybody," he said. He is to discuss the document with Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, on Thursday.



Cardinal Cahal Daly, the first Irish Roman Catholic bishop to preach in Canterbury since the Reformation

## Primate in plea to 'forgive' Irish

CARDINAL Cahal Daly, the Roman Catholic Primate of All Ireland, yesterday preached at Canterbury Cathedral, calling on the English to forgive "the wrongs inflicted by Irish people". It was the first time since the Reformation that an Irish Roman Catholic bishop had preached at Canterbury.

The Church of Ireland Primate, Archbishop Robin Eames, also delivered a sermon.

In a sermon on the theme "Living With Peace", Dr Daly called for mutual healing and forgiveness between Christians on all sides of the conflict, and said: "I wish to ask forgiveness from the people of this land for the wrongs and hurts inflicted by Irish people upon the people of this country on many occasions during that shared

history, and particularly in the past 25 years."

He said that only those who had endured the "long dark years of violence" could appreciate the "blessings of peace". Dr Daly, who is expected to retire later this year, gave a warning that the slide back to conflict remained a "stark possibility".

Dr Daly praised John Major, comparing him to Gladstone, but called on politicians in Westminster to work together for the consolidation of peace. He praised those jailed for terrorist offences for the "crucial role" they had played in the ceasefire and he said "they continue to play an important role in the peace process".

He said he hoped that London and Dublin would agree to the transfer of paramilitaries in jail on the mainland to

prisons near their homes, and described this as a sensitive issue.

Dr Eames said that Northern Ireland's two communities needed to know that, while great demands would be made from both as the cost of lasting peace, "neither will be sacrificed". He said: "What is essential to further progress is the due recognition of real feelings of vulnerability within both the Protestant community and the Roman Catholic community."

"At all costs there must be equal recognition and equal sensitivity to the needs of both communities."

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, sent a message paying tribute to Cardinal Daly and Archbishop Eames and welcoming their role in "such a memorable, symbolic and significant occasion".

## Veterans support boycott in aid of soldier

By NICHOLAS WATT

VETERANS of the Second World War are threatening to boycott the Government's VE-Day celebrations in May unless a paratrooper serving life for murder is freed. Colonel Leonard Fitzroy-Smith has said that Parachute Regiment Association branches and at least one Royal British Legion branch are ready to support a boycott.

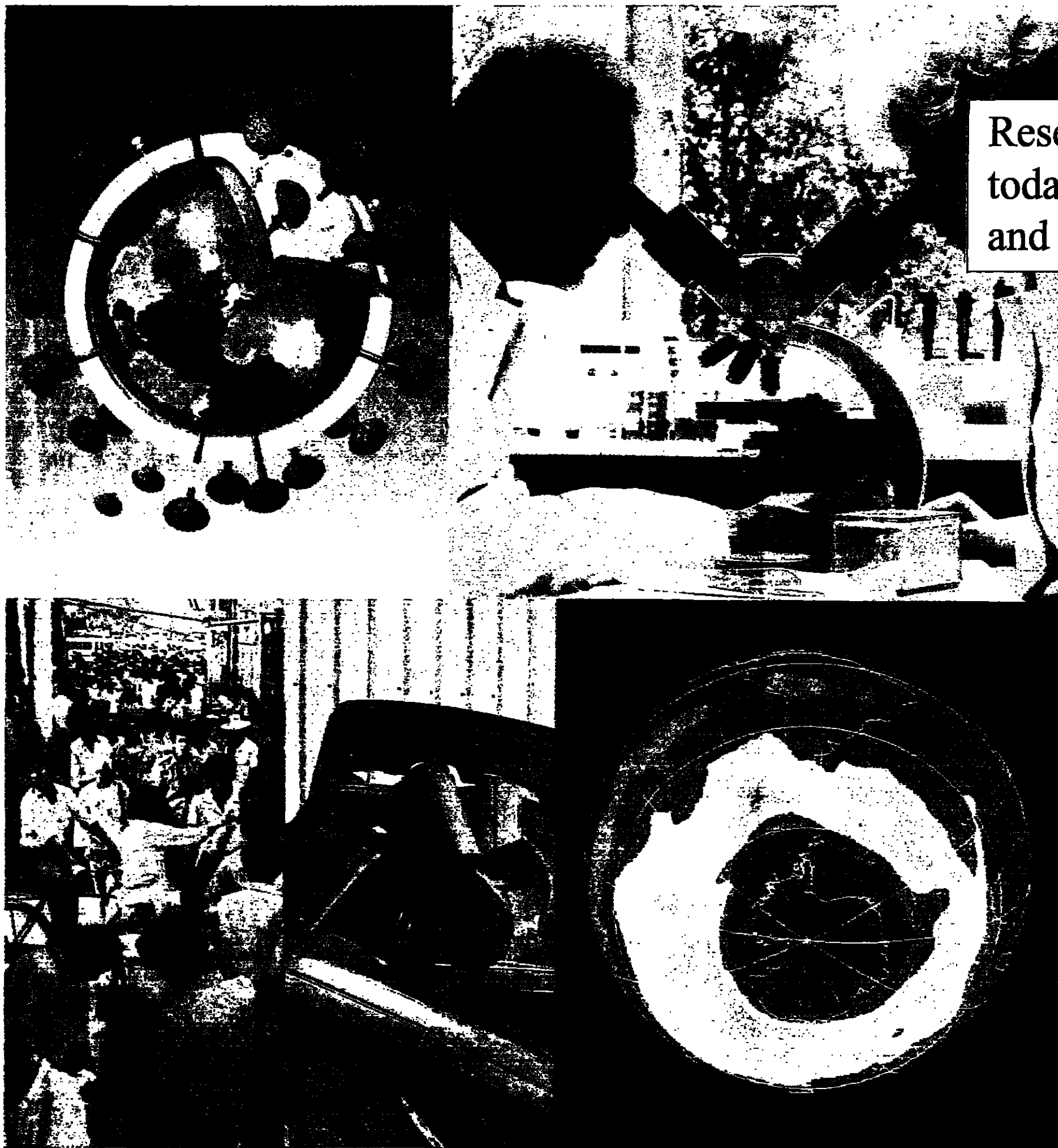
"They feel it would be two-faced to support the Government's VE-Day celebrations if Private Lee Clegg is still in prison," said Col Fitzroy-Smith, who served in Airborne Forces during the war and won the Military Cross.

Four former paratrooper officers will present evidence today to challenge the conviction of Private Clegg who was sentenced to life for murdering a teenager travelling in a joyrider's car in Belfast in 1990. Lieutenant General Sir Napier Crookenden, who is in regular contact with Clegg, said that the evidence would show that the paratrooper was innocent.

Clegg, 26, a member of 3 Battalion, lost his appeal to the House of Lords last week against the conviction for the murder of Karen Reilly, 18, who was a passenger in a car driven by a joyrider in West Belfast. She died after Clegg opened fire on the car as it sped through an Army checkpoint in the republican area of the city in September 1990.

Clegg, who is serving his sentence in Wakefield jail, maintained that he fired four shots in self defence because he believed the car contained terrorists.

The Clegg Committee will challenge evidence by forensic scientists at the trial that he fired the bullet which killed Miss Reilly. Lt Gen Sir Napier Crookenden, 79, said: "One bullet which lodged in the poor girl's back was traced back by forensic evidence to his rifle. We propose to challenge that."



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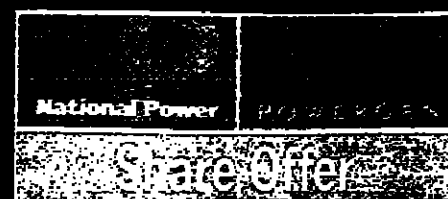
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Angry electorate seeks revenge on Government 'determined to run industry down'

# Tories fear backlash as Cornwall kicks against its sense of isolation

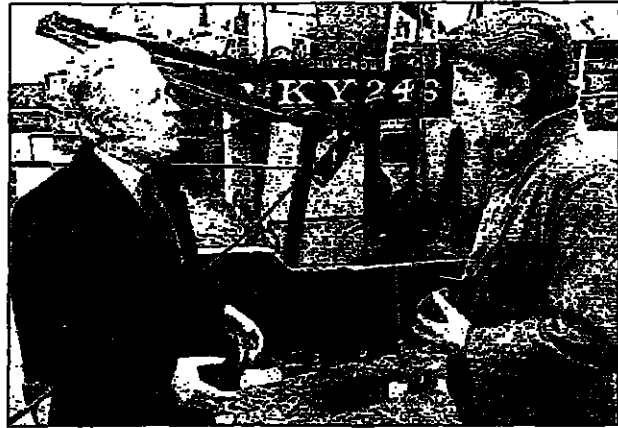
By ALICE THOMSON  
POLITICAL REPORTER

THERE is a mood of vengeance abroad in Cornwall where people, young and old, are preparing to practise their ancient wrecking skills on the Tory Government. The reason can be found in every port and harbour of the rocky coastline from which the Spanish Armada was first seen beating up the Channel in 1588.

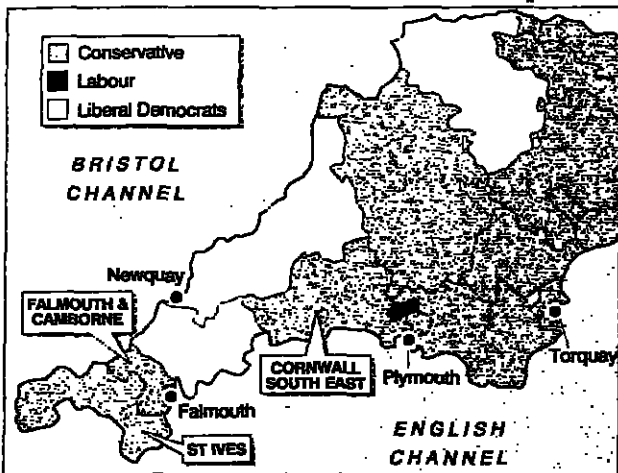
The Cornish are bent on retaliation for the Government's failure to protect the local fishing industry from a second Spanish armada of fishing boats. Support for the Tories, already dented when they lost the Euro-seat to the Liberal Democrats for the first time last year, is reaching new depths. The three local Tory MPs, all of whom have majorities of less than 8,000, face humiliating defeats at the next general election.

Down at the quayside in Newlyn, fishermen are disgusted with the Government for allowing the Spanish access to British waters. The Government's offer of an extra £27 million for decommissioning their fleets is no answer, they say. In the bars, the talk is of an industry disappearing in the same way as the Cornish language. Mick Mahon, an angry local, said: "It cost me £400 to vote Tory in the last election. I lost a day's fishing to vote. Now I want anybody Tory out for the sake of the next generation."

The fishermen make up 20,000 of the 450,000 Cornish population, but everyone shares the spirit of vengeance. The fishing dispute has become a symbol of Cornwall's increasing sense of isolation. It is easier for ministers to get to Brussels than Penzance, which is five hours by train from London and has no regular air service. Cornishmen believe that this shows they feel victimised by the Tories on almost every count. All but one of their mines has closed and their farmers



David Harris, Tory MP for St Ives, talks to Peter Neale, a fisherman, about the threat from Spain



had to cut production to let the French and Germans export food to Britain. The retired who flock to Cornwall for the sun have been alienated by the VAT on domestic fuel and terrified by crime. The young still have no university in the county.

David Hick, a beef and arable farmer and the most westerly voter on the English mainland, said: "I voted Conservative all my life but I will go Liberal Democrat this time. The Tories have forgotten we exist." Unlike the Home Counties, the South West is not yet coming out of the recession. Unlike Wales and Scotland, which have the Welsh and Scottish offices,

and development agencies to fight for them in Westminster, the South West is not specially represented.

Wales got £170 million in Government subsidies last year, the South West, got £52 million. Yet in Cornwall unemployment is 10.8 per cent and in some areas is still rising. Wages are 17 per cent below the national average.

If that is not enough, their water bills are the highest in the country. Every schoolchild in the county can tell you that Cornwall has only 3 per cent of the population but is paying to clean up 30 per cent of Britain's beaches. Now they have been told that they may

have to pay 4 per cent more on their gas bills because they live so far from the North Sea.

Everyone is worried that a privatised British Rail will stop services at Plymouth, ending main line services through the county that bring in the tourists. However hard the Government tries to reassure them that through-ticketing will not mean they have to drive to Devon to buy their tickets, they do not believe them. On a coast dependent on tourism, the Government is even blamed for the fact that B & Bs must now comply with "absurd" EC hygiene regulations if they sleep more than six people.

The three Tory MPs and their supporters are calling on the Government to do something urgently for the South West before the Liberal Democrats and Labour carve it up. William Rogers, treasurer for the St Ives constituency, was frustrated. "The majority here are naturally Conservative: small businessmen, shopkeepers or in the tourist trade. We believed in home ownership and flourished in the 1980s. We have had terrible knocks in the last four years."

"Now we are seeing massive business rate hikes, unemployment is still dangerously high and people are struggling with mortgages. Brussels and Westminster seem intent on wearing Cornish industries down. The Government is silly not to start concentrating on its core supporters," he said.

John Daniel, the leader of the Tories on the Liberal Democrat-held county council in Truro, said: "I am a Cornishman first and Tory second. The Tories would be happy to let us fall into the sea. The Government could win here if it showed it was interested."

"The Liberal Democrat council is closing old people's homes and has pursued very unpopular policies over New Age travellers. The party conference was a disaster with its



A decommissioned trawler is dismantled for scrap. Many fear fishing fleets will go the way of the mines and Cornish language, which have all but disappeared

votes on legalisation of cannabis, giving under-age girls the pill and scrapping the monarchy. And Paddy Ashdown didn't even turn up for the fishing vote.

"Labour now has a chance in Sebastian Coe's constituency of Falmouth and Camborne but the Government needs to warn the Cornish that Labour's policy of regional assemblies could mean Cornwall being governed by Bristol, which we would never accept."

The three MPs are remain-

ing optimistic. They have all played the independent card strongly.

Robert Hicks, who has been MP for Cornwall Southeast for 25 years, hardly mentioned the word Tory in his election manifesto at the last election. "You cannot keep on taking money out of Cornwall without putting something back in. The Government must acknowledge the fragility of this area. The least we could have is a proper development agency."

David Harris, Tory MP for

St Ives, who has a 1,645 majority and was the only MP to vote against the Government on the fishing vote last week, has gained points but is still worried.

"Biscuit-making and plastic mouldings make more money for us but fishing is the backbone of my constituency. If we are going to retain the South West we must become more Euro-sceptic and get it across to the electorate that it is the Liberal Democrats and Labour who will sell us down the river to Brussels," he said.

## Fishermen call for Britain to ignore Brussels

By MICHAEL HORNBY  
AGRICULTURE  
CORRESPONDENT

FISHERMEN have voted for withdrawal from the European Union's common fisheries policy, throwing in their lot with the Tory Euro-rebels.

At a meeting in Derby at the weekend, fishermen's representatives from throughout England and Wales agreed on a campaign to persuade MPs and the public that access to British waters must be brought under national control if the fishing industry is to survive. David Scott, of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, said all pressure, within the law, would be brought to get Britain out of the common policy. "We will be highlighting its failures and pushing forward an alternative strategy for managing fish stocks."

Michael Jack, the Fisheries Minister, agreed yesterday that the fisheries policy (CFP) should be changed but added that what the fishermen were demanding was unattainable. "Whilst we are members of the European Union, it is just not possible to renege on our solemn agreements," he said.

In effect, the fishermen want Britain to behave as if it were no longer a member of the EU and decide for itself which foreign boats should be allowed into British waters. This is incompatible with the principle of the CFP, that fish stocks are a common resource to which all member states should have equal access.

The militant views of trawlermen from Cornwall and Devon, who will be in the front line when Spanish trawlers start fishing off Ireland and southwest England next January, were backed despite warnings from more moderate leaders that they were being unrealistic.

The national federations said it would not support peaceful blockades and other unlawful action, though it has not always been able to prevent such protests in the past.

## Politics of the sewer defines debate

By ALICE THOMSON

FALLING standards in public life are frowned upon in Cornwall, but it is the politics of the sewer not the gutter that will affect the next general election. The cost of water after privatisation in 1989 has infuriated the Cornish.

Against a national average of £199, people in the South West have to pay £304 each for water and sewerage. Some families in homes built since 1989 are metered and

have bills of £620 a year. Last year Ian Byatt, the Director-General of Water Services, announced that South West Water could no longer increase bills by 11.5 per cent and capped increases to 1.5 per cent above inflation. But the damage had already been done and, while shareholders in the company received dividends of £32 million last year, water bills will remain £100 above the national

average. SWW has blamed the bills on the £2 billion improvement programme, required by Europe.

Sebastian Coe, MP for Falmouth and Camborne, said: "This Government has inherited a century of under-investment in sewage systems and the Cornish are paying the costs. It is hard for my older constituents who feel they are expected to foot the tourists' bill."



Coe: "People feel they are paying for tourists"



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## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer South		Love all, IMPs (Swiss teams)	
♠ 10 7 3	♥ A 8 5 4	♠ A 8 5 4	♥ A 8 5 4
♦ Q 6 2	♣ A 8 5 4	♦ Q 6 2	♣ A 8 5 4
♠ A 8 5 4	♥ K 10 7	♠ K 9	♥ K 9
♦ 10 6 4 2	♣ K 9	♦ K 9	♣ K 9

W N E S  
Pass 3NT Pass 3NT  
Contract: 3NT by South. Opening lead: ♠ 2  
(1) 14-16 points

By ROBERT SHEEHAN  
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The format of a Swiss teams competition is that, after a random first-round draw, teams with the same scores play each other. Towards the end of the event, therefore, the better teams expect to play each other. In this year's British Bridge League Swiss Teams, one of the matches in the first round saw four well-seasoned internationals all at the same table.

Declarer on this deal was John Armstrong who, with his regular partner Graham Kirby, has been a member of nearly every British open team for the past ten years. They will be seen in action at the Macallan Pairs this week. Armstrong won the club lead in hand with his king and, rather than try to develop tricks in that suit, he played in diamonds, West winning the second round of the suit. West

switched to the two of hearts to his partner's ace and East returned the three of hearts. What was the heart position?

Armstrong realised that West must have the queen of hearts for his switch to the two (with only small cards he would have led a higher card) and that East must have four hearts for his continuation of the three (if he had started with A 8 3, say, he would have returned the eight). So he rose with the king of hearts, blocking the suit, and cashed his diamonds. He could now afford to knock out the ace of spades to establish two tricks in that suit to go with one heart, three diamonds and three clubs.

If the declarer had ducked the heart continuation, West would have continued with a third heart and that would have left East with a long heart to cash when he was in with the ace of spades.

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

### British success in Norway

In spite of losing in round seven, the London player Andrew Kinsman is heading for the best result of his life in the international tournament in Gausdal, Norway.

He is in hot pursuit of the Australian grandmaster Ian Rogers in the race for first prize, and en route Kinsman inflicted an impressive defeat on the Swedish grandmaster Tomas Ernst.

In the final position Black's sacrificial counter-attack has led to unstoppable threats against the white queen and the white king. Black's main intention is the move ... Qg1 which delivers instant checkmate.

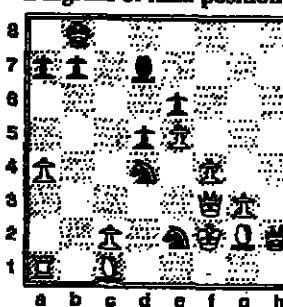
White: Tomas Ernst

Black: Andrew Kinsman  
Gausdal, January 1995

### French Defence

1 e4 e6  
2 d4 d5  
3 Nc3 Bb4  
4 e5 c5

### Diagram of final position



5 a3	Ba5
6 b4	cxd4
7 Qg4	Ne7
8 bxa5	dxn3
9 Qxg7	Rg8
10 Qxh7	Nc6
11 K	Qxh5
12 N3	Bd7
13 Ng5	0-0-0
14 Nxf7	Nf5
15 Nc8	Qxh8
16 Qh3	Nc4
17 Qxc3+	Kc6
18 a4	Qh4+
19 g3	Rxg3
20 Rxg3	Qxh1
21 Kf2	Qh2+
22 Kf2	Nc4
23 Q3	Nc4

White resigns

### Short shines in Holland

Meanwhile, another British success is looming in the powerful international knockout tournament at Wijk aan Zee, Holland.

Nigel Short has knocked out three opponents in swift succession and is the first player to reach the semi-finals. Other prominent grandmasters including Jan Timman of Holland, the former American champion Yasser Seirawan and the Russian Olympic gold medalist Evgeny Bareev are still competing for their place in the semi-final.

Whatever the outcome of the semi-finals, the authority of Short's play so far makes it clear that he has finally banished the hesitant form that has dogged him since his challenge for the world title at London against Garry Kasparov in 1993.

Winning Move, page 44



We are now up against invaders of a different kind: drug smugglers, racketeers, and murderers

## Wanted: protection from the new world disorder

Defensive strategies tend to grow out of perceived threats. The outcome, in 1949, was the North Atlantic Treaty, with its offspring, Nato. But what if threats are not perceived? And what if leadership is lacking?

The collapse of the Iron Curtain, as symbolised by the Berlin Wall, and of the Soviet system, in 1989 and 1991 respectively, prompted euphoria. President Bush even envisaged a New World Order. New clichés abound. They include "the end of the Cold War", "the post-Cold War world" and "the post-Communist world". But clichés, however useful to journalists and politicians, do not always correspond with realities. Here are some of the latter:

□ There is no New World Order. Instead, there is disorder on a vast scale, from the former Yugoslavia to Somalia, to Haiti to Rwanda, to Chechnya. Moreover, new and major challenges to Western security now face us. They include the co-ordinated terrorist threat from Islamic fundamentalism; and the new international co-ordination of criminal groups.

□ Nato is all at sea. A "feel-good" club has been launched, calling itself "Partnership for Peace", essentially a device for appearing to welcome new members into the Western Alliance without offending Russia. A widened membership of Nato itself is under discussion.

□ Communism, alas, has not collapsed. What has collapsed is Moscow's imperial control over its former satellite empire, including in recent memory, the peripheral empire: Cuba, Grenada, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Vietnam; and of course Stalin's closer satellite empire of East Germany and the other East European dependencies. Communist parties no longer necessarily believe in Marxism, although they retain a taste for governing in Leninist style where they have not yet been ousted, as in China, North Korea, Vietnam and Cuba. They have returned to office, under reassuring names, in Lithuania, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria. In Romania, they merely changed their name and sailed on — minus the long-reigning tyrant, Ceausescu — after controversial elections.

As for the ex-Soviet Union, several parties using the word "communist" are now represented in Russia's elected parliament. In some of the ex-Soviet republics — including Kazakhstan with its nuclear weapon — they have adopted the new name formula, without stepping down.

In the Cold War world, the main co-ordinating force of international terrorism was the Soviet Union, although to say so was considered bad form in the US State Department and the Foreign Office of Her Majesty's Government. In our new, disorderly world, Islamic fundamentalists dominate the international terrorism market. The democratic West is the prime target, as well as with those Muslim governments that are considered to be instruments of the Western infidel.

America — Ayatollah Khomeini's "Great Satan" — is now a major target for fundamentalists. The Islamic attempt to destroy the twin towers of the World Trade Centre in New York in February 1993 was only the tip of a growing iceberg.

At the heart of our new world disorder is a new world criminal order. The problem was documented in a remarkable book by the American journalist Claire Sterling called *Crime Without Frontiers* published last year. A pact between the Sicilian Mafia and the American Cosa Nostra on one side and the Colombian cartels on the other was extended to the post-Soviet gangs, to the Japanese Yakuza and the Hong Kong triads.

In Soviet times, a mafia already existed. One of its chiefs was the ruling party's boss in Azerbaijan — and Brezhnev's protégé — Geidar Aliyev, who came to London on an official visit early last year. In the old days, however, the immense frontiers of the USSR were patrolled by the KGB's border guards. Now they are porous — as indeed, increasingly, are the borders of the European Community.

Brian Crozier says Nato must be reinvented to tackle the growing threat posed by the collapse of Moscow's imperial control over its former satellite empire

## agenda

Criminal trading is gathering pace all over the world.

Of what interest is all this to Nato? The short answer is: a great deal less than it ought to be. The strategic significance of the new international crime syndicates was the theme of a report issued in August 1993 by the National Strategy Information Centre in Washington, and communicated to the relevant sub-committee of the Senate in April last year.

It may be argued that these are problems for Western police forces, and for Interpol. This is true. But this exponential expansion of international crime is also strategic significance. For one thing, the substances now being traded by international gangs include weapons-grade plutonium. But how much of it? A precise answer is probably impossible, but the following figures appear to be internationally accepted in police circles: 130 tons available; about 150 kilograms actually on the move;

enough to make, say, 50 bombs of Hiroshima's destructive power. Where does the United Nations come in? I am not known for uncritical support of this ill-conceived entity; but it is still there and cannot be entirely ignored. One thing in its favour was the UN-sponsored 136-nation conference in Naples on organised crime, last November. The UN, however, cannot act decisively in this new area of strategy. In the new world disorder, no massed armies are waiting to invade Western Europe, still less the United States. We are up against invaders of a different kind: drug smugglers and racketeers, murderers and enforcers.

To deal with international crime requires a combination of police and military force. At all costs, Nato (the real, qualified peace force) should be preserved, if only because in the absence of the former Soviet threat it could not be rebuilt. But it should acquire a new dimension: Interpol should have a permanent liaison presence at Nato headquarters, and a North Atlantic equivalent of the American Drug Enforcement Agency should be worked into the new entity. The terrorist challenge also calls for a special branch at Nato, instead of leaving each country to tackle the problem individually.

In this domain, an international diplomacy has a vital role to play. Although very few Islamic governments are democratic in the Western sense, not many of them are fundamentalist, and even those that are not necessarily involved in Jihad terrorism. To illustrate the point: fundamentalist Iran is involved, but not fundamentalist Saudi Arabia. The industrialised Western countries, on their own, cannot possibly defeat the Jihad, although they may successfully counter individual acts, as the French did with the Algiers Airbus. Only the Islamic governments themselves can counter the challenge at its roots. Their collaboration, in their own interest as well as in ours, can be achieved only through patient and experienced diplomacy on our side — and where necessary, the right arms and technical advice.

What the new challenges of the disorderly world call for is a recognition by Nato that it did not exist in 1949. Do we have the necessary leaders to rethink Western strategy? One looks around and sees none. But there is a consoling thought. Necessity sometimes creates leaders. Remember Harry Truman?

A revised edition of Brian Crozier's autobiography, *Free Agent*, serialised in *The Times* in June and July 1993, is now available in paperback (HarperCollins, £7.99).



■ INTERPOL: telegraphic address of the International Organisation of Criminal Police forces in Paris (Organisation Internationale de Police Criminelle).

■ JIHAD: a Holy War to the death of Muslims against unbelievers in Islam. On December 26, an elite team of the French Gendarmerie stormed an Airbus passenger plane at Marseilles airport, which had been hijacked in Algiers two days earlier by four

### GLOSSARY OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER

terrorists of the *Front Islamique du Salut* (FIS) who had killed three passengers in Algiers. Thirteen passengers, three crew members and nine gendarmes were injured, but 65 passengers were freed.

■ PARTNERSHIPS FOR PEACE: This plan for limited defence arrangements

between Nato and individual east European countries was agreed at an informal meeting of Nato defence ministers in October 1993. The same month, Andrei Kozlov, the Russian Foreign Minister, called on east European countries to join Russia in transforming the CSCE into a fully fledged

organisation for world peace and security. ■ CSCE: Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. Also known as the Helsinki conference, which culminated in the Helsinki Final Act of July 1975. In effect, the Final Act enshrined "detente" between the USSR and the US, and between Nato and the Warsaw Pact as negotiated in parallel summits and arms limitation agreements between Brezhnev and Nixon.



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# Mourners call for revenge bombings and accuse Rabin

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

FOR how long can this go on, angry Jews at the scene of yesterday's suicide bomb attack near the Israeli resort of Netanya shouted at Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister. It was raw evidence how much strain Islamic terror is placing on the ailing Middle East peace process.

The attack occurred on the day of sombre national events to mark the liberation of the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz 50 years ago. The emotions were intensified by the loss of more innocent Jewish lives to add to the toll of 100 Israelis claimed by right-wing groups since the peace accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation was signed.

Instead of facing the mounting anger of ordinary Israelis and the stench of recent death at the popular soldiers' roadside halt known as Beit Lid junction, Mr Rabin should have been attending a ceremony at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial to dedicate a monument centred on a cattle wagon from Poland, one of those which helped to carry 1.5 million Jews to their death in Auschwitz.

Inevitably, many ordinary Israelis — including those at schools which marked Aus-

witz Day with an hour of special Holocaust studies — were quick to make the comparison between the slaughter of Jews in the Second World War and the campaign by Islamic militants aimed at sabotaging the peace process by turning the Israeli public against it and the Government which inaugurated it after its 1992 election victory.

Recent opinion polls have shown that the escalation of terror against Jewish civilian targets inside Israel's 1967 boundaries is the main cause of the slump in popularity of Mr Rabin and his Labour Party, now lagging behind the main right-wing opposition Likud group, which has promised to scrap the deal with the PLO if it returns to power in the election due next year.

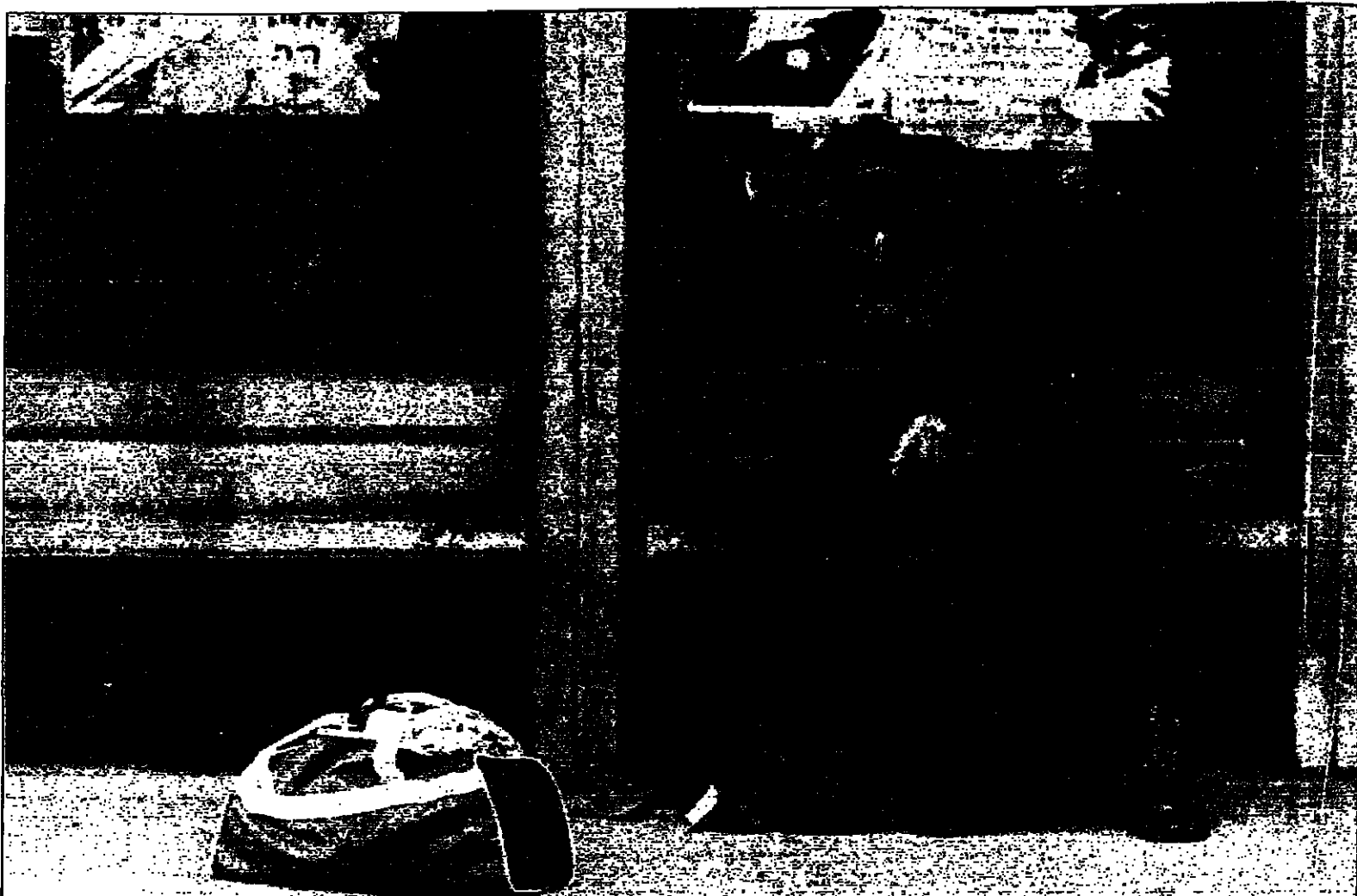
Yesterday, Likud and other right-wing parties were quick to exploit the frustration felt by voters at the inability of the security services to cope with Israel's new public enemy No 1, the Islamic suicide bomber. The party led by Benjamin Netanyahu, younger brother of the dead hero of the Entebbe raid in 1976, lambasted the Rabin administration, already deeply divided internally about how to deal with the

unravelling peace deal. "Labour is a weak Government which has given in to terror because it did not declare a war to the bitter end to end it," Likud said.

Yigal Bilbi of the National Religious Party, an opposition group involved in planning a new pro-settlement campaign at the very moment that the two bombs ripped through the crowd of soldiers, was more outspoken. He called on Israelis to "rise up" to overthrow the Government. Motti Cohen, a driver in the army reserve, voiced the anger of many when he said: "It is time that the Jews started a terror group of their own. This type of killing just cannot be allowed to go on."

Even supporters of the peace process such as Uri Dromi, the chief government spokesman, were unable to restrain their anger or growing conviction that the seemingly endless series of bloody attacks on Jews will have to stop, or the peace experiment begun with such hope on the lawn of the White House will have to be halted.

Mr Dromi said: "Yassir Arafat will now have to make a stand. The Palestinians will have to understand that there



An Israeli soldier, holding the shirt of a friend who was among those hurt in yesterday's suicide bombing, breaks down at the scene of the explosion

is only so much that the Israelis can take. We are committed to the peace process, and we have taken a lot of blows in the past. But I think it is time to say 'enough is enough'." The divisions inside the Cabinet were displayed as ministers from the left-wing Meretz faction insist-

ed that the peace process should continue unabated, while others on the right were seeking a halt in talks already deadlocked over the key question of when Israeli troops are going to withdraw from Arab population centres in the occupied West Bank. Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, Housing Minis-

ter and a popular former army officer, was adamant that the slaughter, the worst since 22 Jews were killed last October in a Tel Aviv bus bomb, represented a watershed. Inspecting the scene of carnage, he said: "This is one of the most tragic days I remember since I was a child. I do not

think it is possible to close the eyes and say 'this is the price' (of peace)."

□ Cabinet decision: The carnage overshadowed what had been expected to be a Cabinet deliberation on further settlement building in parts of the West Bank dubbed "Greater Jerusalem". (Ben Lyndfield

writes). The cabinet, in an ambiguous announcement, appeared to leave Mr Rabin leeway for continued large-scale building at existing settlements. It rejected a freeze sought by Palestinians on new Israeli construction, opting to appoint a committee to review further building projects.

## Britain's role in Auschwitz deaths to be recalled

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE case of the 1,000 Jewish orphans sent to Auschwitz after being denied sanctuary by Britain in 1942 will be recalled at a commemoration of the Holocaust at the weekend.

General Vasili Petrenko, the Russian commander who finally liberated the extermination camp near Cracow in Poland in 1945, will attend a London meeting at which the wartime British Government will be accused of failing adequately to protect European Jewry. Fred Barschak, a member of the Holocaust memorial committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, will highlight the case of the 1,000 orphans in a speech at the meeting.

"In September 1942 the American Government persuaded the Vichy

Government to take a breather from its own deportations and offer the British Government 1,000 children aged four to 14," he said yesterday. "The British Government could send a ship under seal of safe conduct to any port under their control and they could take the children."

"Otto Schiff, who was leader of the immigrant community, made an offer to the British Government, saying not one child would be a charge on the public purse. He said: 'I guarantee absolutely that Jewish and refugee community organisations will take these children.'"

"On September 7, discussions began involving the Home Office and Foreign Office, some chaired by Herbert Morrison." But bureaucrats raised difficulties. "There was a law against admitting anybody from en-

emy-occupied territory, with no exceptions," Mr Barschak said. The bureaucrats held the view that "if we take these children, won't Hitler make another 1,000 orphans?"

The civil servants also wanted to know how they could be sure the children were in fact orphans. "Herbert Morrison caustically replied: 'Do you expect the Germans to supply death certificates?'"

"On December 7, 1942, Mr Schiff reported to the Board of Deputies that he had met with blanket refusals to take the children. By January 1943 the children were sent to Auschwitz because of the prevarication of the British Government."

According to official minutes, Morrison, whose wife was Jewish, feared that the children's arrival might "stir up an unpleasant degree of anti-

Semitism, of which there is a fair amount just below the surface, and that would be bad for the country and the Jewish community."

Alexander Cadogan, the Foreign Office Permanent Under-Secretary, was concerned about justifying to Britain's allies the granting of visas to "enemy aliens, however sound the humanitarian factor". A Home Office memorandum said it would be "necessary to refuse to admit such children unless evidence is forthcoming that both of the parents have perished."

The commemoration will be at 3pm in Logan Hall, Bedford Way, Bloomsbury, central London, on Sunday. Tickets can be obtained by telephoning (0171) 387 3952.

William Rees-Mogg, page 18

## France faces EU isolation over backing for Algeria

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

FRANCE will find itself isolated today in its unwavering support for the military Government in Algeria, as other European Community Foreign Ministers discuss the worsening conflict there and urge the warring parties to compromise.

Britain and most other EU members except France have been angered by President Zouari's blunt dismissal of a peace plan put forward by Algeria's opposition parties, including the Islamic Salvation Front, at their recent talks in Rome. The EU Foreign Ministers, who will discuss the conflict in Brussels today, are increasingly sceptical that the Algerian Government's hardline tactics will end the civil war.

Attacks by Islamic fighters in Algeria were stepped up at the weekend. A Frenchman of Jewish origin was shot dead as he drove through the centre of the city yesterday. Joseph Belsaiche was the 26th Frenchman and 76th foreigner killed since foreigners were warned to leave Algeria in September 1993. Thirty guerrillas raided

a mountain hotel 60 miles southeast of Algiers, killing one worker and critically wounding the manager. On Saturday, fundamentalists killed Rachid Harsague, president of the Algerian football federation. He was shot in the head when he opened his door to a guerrilla posing as a football fan.

Yesterday the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), the most radical of the Muslim guerrilla groups, warned radio and television journalists to stop working immediately or face attack. The threat, published in the London-based newspaper *al-Hayat*, described journalists as "hired media who justify the crimes and cover up the evils" of the Algerian authorities.

Today Britain will discuss with its partners the possible evacuation of all remaining diplomats in Algeria, many of whom are confined to barricaded compounds. Armed attacks on these have increased, and Britain is close to shutting its embassy altogether. Britain will also make clear to France its firm opposition to

any big increase in EU aid to Algeria. France, now holding the EU presidency, wants to commit the 15 to a rapid increase in emergency funds for the North African Government to combat Islamic radicalism and stem the flow of emigrants. Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, said recently that Britain did not believe money alone would solve the problems of Algeria or improve security in the Mediterranean.

Britain has co-operated with France in keeping track of leading FIS members and other activists in Britain. But in the face of widening violence, London has begun to side with Washington, which has called for political dialogue in Algeria and supported the proposed replacement of the military regime with a coalition government before the calling of fresh elections.

In Egypt, police in the southern town of Sohag shot dead the new head of the banned *Camara al-Islamiya* group yesterday. Mahmud Selim, 29, was accused of planning attacks on police.

## MPs urge debate on apartheid immunity

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

OPPOSITION MPs have demanded a 90-minute debate today, after the reopening of the South African parliament, on the immunity from prosecution of 3,500 police officers and two former Cabinet ministers for possible crimes committed during the apartheid era.

President Mandela and F. W. de Klerk, the Second Deputy President and leader of the National Party, shook hands on Friday after a tense week that threatened to shatter the nine-month-old Government and agreed, in Mr Mandela's words, to "make a fresh start".

Douglas Gibson, spokesman on justice for the liberal Democratic Party, which has called for the debate, said yesterday that the government bickering over the indemnity issue was unacceptable.

He said that those who had applied had tacitly admitted apartheid crimes and "a sensible, co-ordinated policy" was needed to "satisfy all the parties concerned".

The African National Congress believes that Adriaan Vlok, the former Minister of Law and Order, Magnus Malan, the former Defence Minister, and 3,500 police officers tried to secure indemnity on the eve of last April's elections. Mr Mandela believed Mr de Klerk had been part of an intrigue to dishonour an agreement that security force indemnities would be granted only by a new government.

## Tribal killings threaten to spread into Kenyan cities

FROM SAM KILEY IN KIGUCHA

ETHNIC clashes that have left 300,000 Kenyans homeless and at least 1,500 dead over the past four years now threaten to spread to the capital, Nairobi, along the country's most popular tourist routes.

Earlier this month ten members of the Kikuyu tribe, many of them elderly farmers, were slaughtered by Masai warriors with spears and clubs a few hundred yards from the road used by hundreds of thousands of tourists visiting the Masai Mara reserve. Eight houses were set alight close to the newly repaved road leading to the park, which is a World Heritage site.

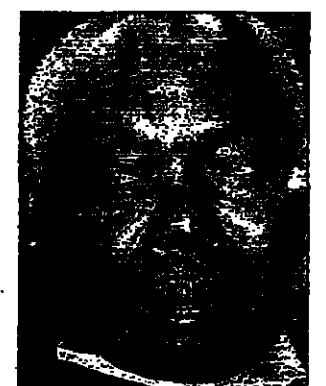
The resurgence of the clashes came after refugees displaced by killings in nearby Enkoko in 1993 were driven out of temporary shelters around a Roman Catholic church in Masai at gunpoint on Christmas Eve and dumped at sites scattered through what the administration describes as their "ancestral areas", closer to Central Province. The moves against the

Kikuyu farmers are aimed, opposition politicians say, at fulfilling President Moi's ambition of establishing hegemony over the region for his Kenya African National Union.

But Western diplomats fear that his recent threat to call snap elections two years before his term is due to expire might spark a violent backlash in Kenya's main cities, which are dominated by oppo-

nents of the Government. The clashes began soon after Mr Moi said in 1990 that the advent of multi-party politics would unleash a wave of inter-tribal warfare. His predictions have come true, with the bulk of the killings being carried out by members of his Kalenjin tribe and their Masai allies.

Concern over Government corruption and the clashes, aimed at driving Kikuyu people from the Rift Valley, provoked donors to cut aid for balance-of-payments support in 1991. In December, after the inflation rate dropped from over 100 per cent a year to about 12 per cent, and the shilling appreciated from 120 to the pound to 70, the annual aid of \$544 million was freed. □ Nairobi: Scores of people were injured when the police stormed the home of the late Oginga Odinga, the former opposition leader, to disperse thousands who gathered in the west of the country to mark the first anniversary of his death, newspapers reported yesterday. (AFP)



Moi: predicted wave of inter-tribal murders

## Buddhists snub Pope as tour ends

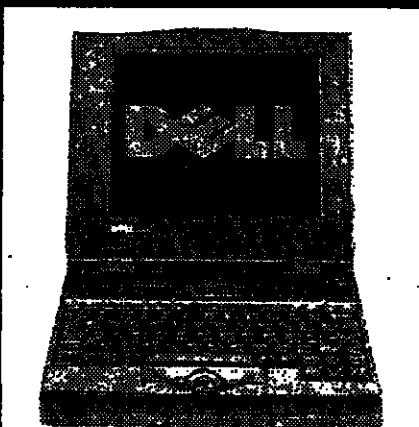
FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN COLOMBO

THE Pope is back in Rome after a 20,000-mile Asia tour that ended on a controversial note in Sri Lanka. Barely 50,000 attended Mass on the windswept seashore in Colombo on Saturday at which 500,000 had been expected. Buddhist monks carried out their threat to snub the

Pope because he refused to apologise for remarks he made about their religion, Sri Lanka's Government, which worked feverishly to settle the quarrel, was embarrassed. The country's Buddhist hierarchy has a reputation for political and theological dogmatism, with occasional outbursts of violent extremism. From where he spoke, the Pope could see a statue of

Solomon Bandaranaike, the former Prime Minister shot by a Buddhist monk in 1959. The Pope told Muslim, Christian and Hindu leaders at a meeting on Saturday no Buddhists were present — that perhaps nothing represented a greater threat to Sri Lanka than continuing ethnic violence in the north, where Tamils are fighting for a separate homeland.

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# Who's saying yes to nuclear energy?

1995 is an important year for energy policy in Britain. The results of the national Nuclear Review will be announced. These will influence the mix of electricity supplies well into the 21st century. And a new nuclear station, largely built by British

companies, will start to make electricity at Sizewell in Suffolk.

So it seems timely to take a fresh look at the arguments, and see why numbers of industrialists, trade-unionists, energy professionals and other prominent public figures are saying yes to nuclear energy.

## It makes economic sense.

**"The long-term prospects for the economics of nuclear energy, against the background of increasing public concern about carbon and sulphur emissions, have never been brighter."**

*N M Rothschild, Merchant Bank.*

## It sustains skilled jobs.

**"Around 100,000 jobs are tied up with the nuclear industry in total. They are highly skilled, high-technology jobs, and this industry's export potential is immense."**

*Howard Davies,  
Director-General, Confederation of British Industry.*

## It puts safety first.

**"Nothing is more important to this high-technology, innovative British industry than the safety of the people involved, the public whom they serve, and the environment in which we all exist."**

*Sir Gavin Laird, General Secretary,  
Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union.*

## It has environmental benefits.

**"Combating the risk of global warming is a strong reason for supporting the expansion of nuclear power."**

*Professor David Pearce,  
Director, Centre for Social and Economic Research  
on the Global Environment.*

## It boosts our exports.

**"The export market for nuclear power stations already exists in the Far East. World Energy Council estimates indicate that global nuclear power production may double by 2020. That could mean Britain taking a slice of export markets worth many billions of pounds in the next 30 years."**

*Dr Terence Harrison, Chief Executive, Rolls-Royce plc.*

## It is a long-term energy source.

**"When depletion of resources starts to bite on oil and gas, we will just have nuclear, coal and renewables to look at. I think globally all three will play an important role."**

*Dr Mary Archer, Chair, National Energy Foundation.*

## It helps develop technology.

**"Nuclear power has a great future internationally. As a nation we have very many good engineers and scientists in the field; we are extremely skilled at nuclear technology."**

*Lord Prior, Chairman, General Electric Co. plc.*

## It contributes to balanced energy supplies.

**"Any sensible energy policy must keep all the options in some balance; broadly I think Britain and the world can't afford to be without nuclear energy."**

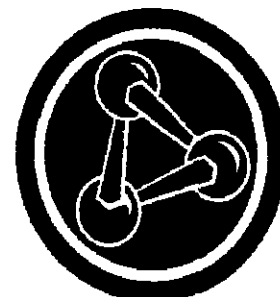
*Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York.*

We believe that to uphold all the benefits this source of energy offers, Britain should move ahead now and build new nuclear stations to replace old ones coming out of service.

This will help keep energy supplies secure through a balanced portfolio of fuels, assist in meeting environmental targets, retain leading-edge industrial expertise and enable this country to compete

realistically in a multi-billion-pound market in the coming decades.

If you'd like to know more about the case for nuclear energy, call 0272 244750 or write to the British Nuclear Industry Forum, 22 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB. Or fax the Forum on 071 828 0110.



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# Kobe survivors face new threat from landslides

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

EARTHQUAKE survivors, many of them camping in makeshift shelters, faced fresh fears of landslides, after-shocks and disease yesterday as driving rain and intense cold hampered relief efforts in Kobe.

The death toll from the last Tuesday's quake rose to about 5,000 as poor weather conditions forced rescuers to abandon their search in many areas, including the Rokko region near Kobe, where 30 people were buried alive in a landslide. More than 175 people are still missing, and almost 26,000 are injured, many of them seriously.

A team of 15 British rescuers left for Kobe yesterday, despite an initial refusal from the Japanese Government to their offer of help. Willie McMartin, the leader, said that there was now little chance of finding survivors.

The authorities issued emergency warnings to people to evacuate more than 1,200 buildings around Kobe in case of landslides. After-shocks continue to rock the area and on Saturday one was recorded that measured 4.1 on the Richter scale. Another quake, measuring 4.6 on the Richter scale, occurred yesterday. It was centred off the Izu Peninsula, below Mount Fuji and about 55 miles southwest of Tokyo.

The waves of Kobe refugees fleeing areas prone to landslides have aggravated the severe congestion in makeshift evacuation centres. As strong winds took hold and the dangers of floods and lightning increased, more than 370,000 people spent their seventh night in cramped and unsanitary conditions. Despite the weather, relief work-

**The Governor of Osaka criticised the survivors for being lazy and unwilling to help themselves**

ers yesterday managed to set up large tents to shelter more than 4,000 survivors.

The flow of food and medical and other supplies to affected areas had improved by the weekend and local authorities reported that electricity and telephone services had been restored to most parts of the city. Water is, however, still in critically short supply.

The Japanese Government, which is reeling from widespread criticism of its slow response to the quake, yesterday decided to establish an emergency field centre in Kobe to cope with secondary disasters such as landslides

and after-shocks. A liaison office was also established in the port yesterday to co-ordinate local and national relief efforts. Commentators said, however, that such an office should have been established immediately.

Tokuo Tamazawa, the director of the Defence Agency, last night attempted to address mounting criticism of the two-day delay before soldiers were sent to help the relief work. Mr Tamazawa said that each local government was responsible for drawing up crisis management strategies, and that the Kobe city government had previously ruled out co-operation with the military in event

of an emergency. Shizuka Kamei, the Transport Minister, called a press conference at the weekend to deny reports that before last Wednesday's emergency Cabinet meeting he had described the quake as "heaven's punishment" for the rebellion by Socialist Party members in western Japan against leaders of the ruling coalition.

Mr Kamei's alleged remark was quoted by Japanese reporters covering the meeting, and came on the day that Kazuo Nakagawa, the Governor of Osaka, near Kobe, criticised the survivors for being lazy and "unwilling to help themselves".

Mr Kamei, an ultra-conservative member of the mainstream Liberal Democratic Party, is known for his intense dislike of the Socialists, who form a small but critical part of the ruling coalition. Kobe is in the Hyogo region, which is a stronghold of Socialist politicians who oppose co-operation with the LDP and who, in recent weeks, have threatened to form a new party.

On Saturday, Mr Kamei denied having used the term "heaven's punishment" and said he had merely commented "how awful it must be for the people of Hyogo to have their Socialist politicians talking of leaving the party, even after a disaster as awful as the quake".

The mounting backlash to the Government's confused response to the quake has forced a string of hasty retractions and explanations from cabinet ministers. On Friday, Tomichi Murayama, the Prime Minister, admitted to the Diet, or parliament, that there were "serious shortcomings" in the Government's emergency crisis management system. He promised to step up relief efforts and aid for victims.

Yukio Okamoto, a former senior diplomat who is now a foreign-policy commentator, said: "The question that urgently needs to be asked is whether Japan is a country with a modern system of government".

Mr Okamoto, who compared the response to last week's quake with the American response to the 1989 California earthquake, said that enormous inefficiency and confusion in communication between levels of the bureaucracy and the executive had become apparent.

More tremors: An earthquake measuring five to six on the Richter scale shook buildings on the Kurile Islands in the far east of Russia on Saturday, a spokesman for the Russian Emergency Ministry said yesterday. There were no reports of casualties. In Colombia, a strong earthquake about 75 miles north-west of Bogotá with a preliminary magnitude of 5.7 rocked a large part of the country yesterday. No injuries were reported.

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A Swiss rescuer and his dog search for victims in the rubble of a building in Kobe at the weekend

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## Butler killed richest woman in US, nurse claims

BY JAMES BONE

THE court battle over the billion-dollar legacy of Doris Duke, once America's richest woman, has spawned a murder mystery worthy of Agatha Christie.

A nurse who cared for the octogenarian tobacco heiress at her Beverly Hills mansion in her final days has claimed in a sworn statement that she "did not die of natural causes", and accused a pony-tailed butler of killing her.

Tammy Payette said that Bernard Lafferty instructed a doctor to give Miss Duke lethal doses of painkillers, even though she had at least five years

to live. The nurse said that when Miss Duke returned home from hospital after a stroke in September 1993, her physical therapy was stopped and that, at Mr Lafferty's request, "she was placed on a massive sedation regime".

On October 27, Dr Charles Kivowitz asked Ms Payette to prepare an intravenous morphine solution, saying: "It's time for Miss Duke to go".

The nurse said Miss Duke's condition was stable at the time and she was not in pain. Despite the injection, she clung to life. "Later that evening, Bernard [Lafferty] became very excited and impatient because Miss Duke was

lingering and called Dr Kivowitz explaining that Miss Duke had not expired," Ms Payette said.

"Dr Kivowitz returned and injected a needle into the L.V. [intravenous] tube and began to push the morphine," she said. "Despite the massive doses of morphine, Miss Duke still did not expire until several hours later."

The heiress's body was taken away two hours later and cremated without a post-mortem examination. The cause of death was reported to be progressive pulmonary oedema. Both Mr Lafferty and Dr Kivowitz insist that Miss Duke died of heart failure caused by a build-

up of fluid in the lungs, and say the morphine was given to ease her pain.

However, the mere hint of foul play prompted the probate judge to order an investigation by Richard Kuh, a former District Attorney who made his name as a detective in the case of Claus von Bulow, the New York socialite who was acquitted of trying to murder his wife. Police in New York and Los Angeles are also considering whether to launch inquiries. Another of Miss Duke's doctors, Harry Demopoulos, is contesting Mr Lafferty's right to become a joint executor of the \$12 billion (£7.59 million) estate.



Mr Quayle tells an Indianapolis convention that he is "back in the arena" and fit for a presidential race

## Quayle tries to allay health fears in presidential quest

BY IAN BRODIE

DAN QUAYLE, whose gaffes as US Vice-President made him a constant butt of comedians and cartoonists, is preparing to run for President.

He has announced plans to file candidacy papers next month and to make a formal declaration of his intention to seek the Republican nomination in April. Despite recent worries about his health, Mr Quayle, 47, says he is fit for the fight and "back in the arena".

Less than three weeks ago, surgeons removed his appendix after detecting a benign growth. They gave him a complete cancer screening but found no other problems, they said. In November and December, Mr Quayle was treat-

ed for blood clots in his lungs. Doctors said the condition was caused by being confined for long periods on aircraft, which allowed clots to form in Mr Quayle's legs and to travel to his lungs.

Eager to put questions about his health to rest, Mr Quayle told a cheering throng of 30,000 at a convention in Indianapolis that he was "scanned, tested and ready" for the campaign.

Mr Quayle has been urged by many associates and former aides to sit out the 1996 race and work on adding substance to his public image in time for the election in 2000. By then, they argue, memories will have faded about his many faux pas,

including his urging a student to add an "e" to the word potato during a spelling test. To his credit, though, his early support for family values is now a popular theme among all politicians, including Mr Clinton.

Two Republicans have already filed declarations of candidacy: Phil Gramm, a rambunctious senator from Texas, and Lamar Alexander, a low-key former education secretary and Governor of Tennessee. Robert Dole has formed an exploratory committee.

After leaving office two years ago, Mr Quayle became the first former Vice-President to make a television commercial - for potato crisps.



O.J. Simpson talks to Robert Shapiro, his lawyer, at a pretrial hearing and, right, Lance Ito, the judge who will preside over proceedings

## Millions tune in as Simpson case opens

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

AFTER seven months as the most famous murder suspect in American history, O.J. Simpson faces his jury for the first time today and will have to listen to prosecutors explain how they hope to convict him of killing Nicole Brown Simpson, his former wife, and Ronald Goldman, her friend.

The long-awaited opening statements will be watched live on television by one in three adult Americans, according to recent projections. The judge has struggled to insulate the case from its context of vast wealth, racial tension, Hollywood-style celebrity and obsessional public interest, but the "trial of the century" may yet turn into an embarrassing mistrial.

Mr Simpson has pleaded not guilty. Last Wednesday, however, the defence suffered a setback when evidence that he may have abused his



Nicole Simpson: found stabbed with her friend

former wife was ruled admissible in court. On Friday, Robert Shapiro, one of the defence team, referred to the alleged violent incidents, indicating that the jury would hear the defence's version of the stormy marriage today.

The defence has been given until today to provide evidence for its theory that a key piece of evidence, a blood-stained glove found in Mr Simpson's grounds on the morning after the murders, was planted there by a detective.

Meanwhile, a new CNN poll shows an erosion of public support for Mr Simpson, once a hugely popular footballer and black role model. For the first time since he was arrested, most respondents said they were "unsympathetic" towards him.

Today, however, the case finally moves from the court of public opinion to that of Lance Ito, the bearded Japanese-American judge. The trial is expected to take at least six months. Mr Ito spent two months last year screening potential jurors and announced that they were to be sequestered for the entire

trial. He must now maintain order as prosecutors try to link Mr Simpson to the stabblings that took place on June 12, 1994, with a wealth of scientific evidence.

DNA analysis of blood from the murder scene and Mr Simpson's house two miles away has already appeared to implicate him, according to reports leaked to the Los Angeles Times. Marcia Clarke, the Assistant District Attorney, says she is ready to call up to 200 witnesses who claim to have information about the football star's relationship with his former wife and his movements on June 12.

Johannie Cochran Jr, who has emerged as the lead defence lawyer after a public feud between Mr Shapiro and F. Lee Bailey, another member of the team, is expected to argue that Detective Mark Fuhrman planted the glove in

the garden out of distaste for inter-racial marriages such as the Simpsons'.

Mr Cochran has won permission to use the word "nigger" in court if he can prove that Mr Fuhrman used it in the past, despite prosecution objections that the word would infuriate the jury, eight of whom are black.

Mr Simpson's fall from grace has gripped the United States ever since he absconded on the day he was meant to surrender to police last June, leading them instead on a surreal low-speed chase along the San Diego freeway.

At times "Camp O.J.", the village of temporary television studios opposite the courthouse, has been deserted, but it is full of bustling now. All the three main networks will broadcast today's statements live, losing about \$13 million (£8.2 million) in advertising revenue.

## Capitol truce ends as Gingrich and Hillary trade barbs

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

IT COULD be the height of an election campaign, the way Bill and Hillary Clinton, Newt Gingrich and their supporters are going for each other.

With both Democrats and Republicans meeting in Washington, the two camps have been trading barbs with a fury that became personal, even ungallant, and dashed the hopes of those Americans who had hoped Washington would become less confrontational.

The onslaught came on the eve of tomorrow's State of the Union speech, the closest Americans come to a state opening of Parliament. Mr Gingrich, as Speaker, will introduce Mr Clinton to address a joint session of Congress where, for the first time in 40 years, the two chambers are under Republican control. Both men come from the South, where feigned sincerity is an ingrained habit, and will undoubtedly handle the occasion with surface civility.

Mr Gingrich spurred advice to ignore Democratic calls for him to abandon his agreement to write a book for HarperCollins, a publishing house controlled by Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of

The News Corporation, the ultimate owner of *The Times*. He said sarcastically that he knew important Democrats who would have turned down advance royalties of \$1.5 million (£3 million) as he did. He added: "They'd have said, 'I can make too much money in cattle futures'."

This was a vicious stab at Hillary Clinton's widely questioned commodity trading in which she made \$10,000 in nine months in Arkansas. The Gingrich comment brought members of the Republican National Committee heering to their feet. It annulled the truce that existed after Mrs Clinton invited Mr Gingrich and his mother to the White House for tea. Mrs Clinton's olive branch had followed the disclosure that the Speaker had confided his mother, "Bitch", to the *First Lady* was "bitch".

Now Mrs Clinton got her own back, saying he did not care what the Speaker thought of her. "I love to watch Republicans squirm when the tables are turned," she told Democrats. "They're great at dishing it out, but they really can't take it when the truth is pointed out."

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- allowing up to 14 days for delivery. You may return the book anytime within three months for a full refund if not satisfied.



Pressure from West grows for ceasefire in capital that has become an open mortuary

# Innocent victims of Grozny emerge to bury their dead

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN GROZNY

THE five Russian Hind helicopter gunships flew in circular, synchronised attack runs, pumping rockets and cannon fire into the Chechen fighters below. Nearby, an armoured personnel carrier erupted in a white flash and a grey cloud of smoke as the Chechens fought back.

Such events further contradict the credibility of President Yeltsin and his forces: the helicopters' mission was north of the Sumzha river, from where the Chechens are supposed to have been driven, and the armoured personnel carrier was in Freedom Square. There is no Russian flag above the smoking presidential palace.

Attempts at a military solution have caused the deaths of many innocent people in Grozny. The scale of last week's fighting has left the city an open mortuary, its victims allowed scant dignity. For two days after the Chechens evacuated the palace the fighting quietened as each side collected its dead. As most Chechen civilians have left the city, the weightiest mantle of suffering has fallen on the Russians. As so often in war, the tragedy is borne by the old, the poor, and

those with nowhere else to go. Under a snowy sky they are emerging from their shelters to bury their dead, dragging the corpses on sleds, hacking at the frozen soil in parks and gardens: burying while they can.

"Look," a Chechen soldier called, gesturing to a broken house beside him. "The Russians are killing their own people." Dressed from head to toe in baggy black tank uniform, including a balaklava, he looked like a ninja turtle. But any humour ended in the scene behind him where lay the frail body of an old woman surrounded by weeping family. It was a scene repeated all over the city.

Near the River Sumzha, another group of pale, aged people, stripped of their dignity by the events of the past month, wrapped the body of a friend in a carpet. She too was an old woman, who had died of the cold in a place where there is no way to keep warm any more. They strapped her to a door which they pulled, pushed and shunted to the river bank, and put the body into a hastily dug hole in the bank. It was a quick affair. There were no prayers. They were not sure who held the opposite side of the river. "We are Russians," Valentina Dudyonov said in a gentle sing-

song voice, clutching a small dog to her breast as her friend was lowered into the ground. "We don't have anywhere to go. It makes no difference to us whose flag flies above the presidency. All we get from our own people is bombs, bombs, bombs. It is so cold. There is no water. There is disease. We are dying."

Others were not even granted a burial ceremony. In a side street off the Mirminka roundabout an old couple were dead in the snow, their bags of possessions beside them. The old man sat against the wall, his hand on a yellow case, an expression of surprise on his face, a little blood visible on his chest. His wife lay five yards away. Someone had placed her hat over her face, which was slightly deformed by the mortar bomb blast that had killed them. Other than that gesture they had been left alone.

□ Moscow: About 2,000 demonstrators, many holding candles and anti-war posters, gathered outside the former KGB headquarters in Moscow yesterday to remember those who have died in the fighting (Richard Beeston writes). About 35 women from the Association of Soldiers' Mothers, left for Grozny to find their sons and take them home.



A woman pulls her belongings past a burning gas main as she leaves Grozny

## Russians pour fresh troops into war zone

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOZDOK

ANY hope that the Russian army might seek a political solution to the Chechen conflict was dashed for us as we drove out of Chechnya towards the main Russian military base of Mozdok at the weekend. Immense columns of Russian reinforcements were pouring down the road towards Grozny, accompanied by stores, ammunition and heavy rocket launchers.

In one column alone, apparently of two battalions, we counted 165 lorries and 57 armoured personnel carriers. Another battalion was encamped by the roadside, its tanks in a circle pointing outwards. Thousands more troops are encamped around Mozdok, northwest of Grozny, on the Russian side of the border with Chechnya.

But if Russian numbers are continuing to increase, morale and efficiency are another matter. Maxim, 19, a conscript on guard outside the Mozdok base, cursed the war: "Who needs it? Not us, or any of the ones who have been killed. They all had families at home." Maxim said that helicopters carrying dead and wounded, nicknamed "Black Tulips", fly into Mozdok from Chechnya all the time. "We have already lost 7,000 dead in Chechnya and in the whole ten years of the Afghan war we lost only 11,000," he said.

Maxim's figure appears greatly exaggerated, but the fact that he and his friends believe it is evidence of the mood among the soldiers in Mozdok who are waiting to go into the battle.

Valeri, 19, an Interior Ministry conscript, just returned from Chechnya, said that his unit had been looking for weapons in Chechen villages, a task he described as "very nasty". He said his unit had been attacked several times by Chechen guerrillas. "After all, the Chechens are fighting for their country," he said. "There are bandits among them, but most are just ordinary people fighting to defend their homes. That is why they fight so well. I do not think we should have gone there."

When asked if the Russian command had made mistakes, Valeri exploded: "It is worse than mistakes, it is a disgrace. It is a shambles. We have lost an enormous number of men, unnecessarily."

Morale was better among a group of special forces soldiers from Siberia. We met them in the Mozdok town telephone exchange, where we heard them phoning to their families to boast of their part in capturing the presidential palace. These are professional soldiers, older and much tougher-looking than the conscripts, and dressed in impressive grey camouflage and black berets, not in the usual filthy khaki.

Their mood was far from gung-ho, however. They said that casualties have been high, that a partisan war had already begun and that it would go on for a long time. Vladimir, from Omsk, said: "Your grandchildren will still be reporting this war."

To judge by what they told us, guerrilla attacks are taking place all over many of the Russian-occupied areas of Chechnya. Even the Russian-held northern and western half of Grozny is far from secure in Russian hands. The Spetsnaz (special forces) soldiers spoke of continual sniping and ambushes. In the words of Vyacheslav, 25, "the Chechens are like werewolves. During the day, they look like humans, but at night you are walking among so-called peaceful Chechen civilians and there is not a moment you can be sure you will not get a bullet in the back."

One reason why Chechen fighters were able to be so active behind Russian lines is obvious when you drive into the Chechen-held half of Grozny along the roads from Ingushetia to the west. Russian troops stationed near the Ingushetia border are making no serious effort even to check vehicles. One reason for the laxness was suggested by the fact that every Russian officer we interviewed at these posts one morning was seriously drunk.

Leading article, page 19

## Economic links under huge strain, Germany warns Yeltsin

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY will make clear to Russia today that future economic co-operation depends on a firm commitment to democratic reform and the rebuilding of Western confidence lost by the suppression of Chechnya.

Günther Rexrodt, the Economics Minister, travelled yesterday to St Petersburg at the head of a 28-member delegation to set out the political reservations of German business. "We will use the meeting of the German-Russian Co-operation Council to underline to the Russian

Government that its behaviour in Chechnya has put huge strain on its credibility as a partner for reform and democracy," he said.

A similar case was put yesterday by Klaus Kinkel, the Foreign Minister, in a meeting in Switzerland with Andrei Kozirev, his Russian counterpart. Last week Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, again telephoned President Yeltsin and advised him that the West was waiting for a sign from the Kremlin that he was still a political and economic reformer.

"What kind of friend would I be if I left Boris Yeltsin in the lurch now?" the Chancellor asked in reply to criticism during an ill-tempered parliamentary debate on Thursday. Herr Kohl was stung by accusations that he was overlooking the cruelty of Russian actions in Chechnya because of a wish to prop up Mr. Yeltsin. The unhappy balance between, on the one hand, maintaining stable and relatively friendly links between Moscow and Bonn and, on the other, criticising Russian abuse of human rights has been a feature of German Ostpolitik since the 1960s. The fall of communism has not made the dilemma any easier to resolve. Germany, however, has real economic leverage over Russia. Bilateral

economic relations with Russia can be better exploited than those with multilateral institutions. The International Monetary Fund mission to Moscow last week bore the hallmarks of a black force when the economists complained about the high budgetary costs of the Chechen war, as if accountants could carry out a cost-benefit analysis on using cluster bombs rather than standard artillery shells against the Chechen civilians. Simply, a multilateral financial organisation such as the IMF is ill equipped to speak about human rights issues. However, Russia owes Germany 62 billion marks (£26.5 bil-

lion), 48 billion marks of which is covered by credit guarantees. German commercial banks are owed 12 billion marks. If Germany links its political complaints with economic demands, then Russia has to listen.

"It will be very difficult, very sensitive indeed," Herr Rexrodt agreed before he left for St Petersburg. His approach will be to lump the war and a fear of a new militarised anti-democratic political course with other largely economic obstacles to investment such as incomplete tax policies. Together, he will argue, those factors could tip German business away from Russia.

When asked if the Russian command had made mistakes, Valeri exploded: "It is worse than mistakes, it is a disgrace. It is a shambles. We have lost an enormous number of men, unnecessarily."

Morale was better among a group of special forces soldiers from Siberia. We met them in the Mozdok town telephone exchange, where we heard them phoning to their families to boast of their part in capturing the presidential palace. These are professional soldiers, older and much tougher-looking than the conscripts, and dressed in impressive grey camouflage and black berets, not in the usual filthy khaki.

## Balladur offered 'poisoned support'

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

EDOUARD BALLADUR was embroiled in the first real controversy of his French presidential election campaign yesterday after the extreme right-wing National Front offered him an acutely embarrassing declaration of support.

Opponents of France's Gaullist Prime Minister seized on the declaration to suggest that he had concluded a secret deal with Jean-Marie Le Pen, the Front's leader.

Although the Balladur camp swiftly denied the claims, distancing itself from M. Le Pen, it was unable to dispel the impression that the Prime Minister had been dragged off his pedestal into the unflattering arena of electoral politics.

The damage was done in an interview on Saturday in which M. Le Pen, the Front's presidential candidate, spoke of his respect for M. Balladur and described him as a man capable of uniting all Frenchmen. Asked whether the Prime Minister's aides had met his party to discuss electoral pacts, M. Le Pen replied: "Nothing would be more normal."

## Berlusconi softens election demand

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

HOPES rose yesterday that Lamberto Dini, the new Italian Prime Minister, will win votes of confidence in parliament for his Government of technocrats after Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon, backed away from a demand for a general election in June.

Signor Berlusconi, who resigned as Prime Minister last month after he was made the subject of a corruption investigation, said on Saturday: "I do not have an electoral obsession" and said he merely hoped that a general election would be held "within a reasonable timeframe".

Signor Dini, who was Treasury Minister in Signor Berlusconi's Government, is to outline his government programme in a speech to the Chamber of Deputies today before facing a vote of confidence in the lower house later in the week, to be followed by another vote in the Senate.

Signor Berlusconi and his Forza Italia party had threatened to vote against Signor Dini on the ground that none of the ministers from the previous Government were retained in his Cabinet. But the tycoon softened his tone after it became clear that even his supporters are worried about the prospect of more political instability and further damage to the lira and the Milan Stock Exchange if Signor Dini should be forced to resign. Most Italians would interpret such a defeat for Signor Berlusconi as a cynical act by Signor Berlusconi, a desperate effort to retain power in the wake of the demise of his own Government after nine disastrous months.

Signor Berlusconi added last weekend that he was confident that "a real truce" could be reached, pending an eventual election after urgent economic and institutional reforms are passed.

Signor Dini also has indicated that he will introduce a mini-budget to bring Italy's huge public spending deficit under control. The pension system is also under review.



Dini might survive votes of confidence

## Drug chief killed in gun battle

Rio de Janeiro: Flavio "Negao" Pires da Conceicao, reputedly one of the most ruthless leaders of Rio de Janeiro's drug gangs, was killed in a gun battle with police, the police said. A police sergeant also died.

Witnesses said more than 50 members of the police special forces raided the sprawling Vigario Geral shantytown on Saturday and headed straight for Negao's secret hideout. Residents draped black sheets in streets, and shops were closed in mourning for the drug trafficker, who effectively ruled the shantytown.

## Mine exodus

Freetown: Foreign staff of an American mine are leaving Sierra Leone after rebels attacked their mine and seized five people. The rebels have promised to release two British hostages "soon". (Reuters)

## Skiers 'dead'

Ankara: An American-Turkish military search for a missing US airman and his son, who were on a skiing trip, has been called off. Officials said the pair had probably died in the mountains. (Reuters)

## Briton freed

Kabul: Eden Fernandez, the British national who was held captive by an Afghan Shia faction in west Kabul for eight months, has been freed and flown out on a special Red Cross flight. (AFP)

## Coach raid

West Covina, California: Three men boarded a coach bound for a Las Vegas casino, donned masks and drew guns ten minutes into the trip and robbed 40 fellow passengers of their betting money. (AFP)

## Thin on top

Warsaw: Members of Poland's fringe Bald People's Party began a hunger strike to demand that a new constitution guarantee more top state posts for bald people. The PAP news agency said. (Reuters)

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## 10,000 back deposed bishop

BY ADAM SAGE

AT LEAST 10,000 Roman Catholics demonstrated in northern France yesterday in a show of support for Mgr Jacques Gaillot, the French bishop dismissed by the Vatican ten days ago.

The size of the demonstration in Evreux, Mgr Gaillot's former diocese, was an indication of the strength of feeling provoked by an affair that has shaken the French clergy. In a message broadcast over loudspeakers at the start of what was described as an "exceptional Mass", Mgr Gaillot spoke of a "shock wave" prompted by the Pope's decision. "This is my most beautiful

ful day as a bishop," he told a congregation estimated at between 10,000 and 30,000. The demonstration illustrated "the aspiration for liberty, for the right to be different, for democracy and the need for debate," he added. "Tomorrow, we will no longer be able to make decisions without taking you into account, whether in church or society."

The Pope is unlikely to see things in the same light. Mgr Gaillot, 59, angered the Vatican with his warnings that only condoms can prevent Aids, his calls for tolerance of homosexuality, for the ordination of married priests and his attacks on the French Government. Worse, the

Bishop of Evreux took his message to the media, appearing on television, giving an interview to the men's magazine, *Lui*, and featuring on Fun Radio, a Paris-based station that makes Radio 1 look high-brow. But if all that disturbed Rome, it won Mgr Gaillot widespread backing in France.

Yesterday, as he arrived at Evreux Cathedral, Mgr Gaillot was applauded by churchgoers who had travelled from all over the country and even, in a few cases, from abroad. Their enthusiasm, however, was not shared by other French bishops, who have been reduced to embarrassed silence.









**DANCE**  
The inimitable Lindsay Kemp will glitter and be androgynous in a new season at Sadler's Wells  
OPENS: Tomorrow  
REVIEW: Thursday



**MUSIC**  
Jack Brymer, king of the classical clarinet, marks his 80th birthday with Mozart and Weber at the Barbican  
CONCERT: Wednesday  
REVIEW: Friday



**FILM**  
Americans find that things are rather different in Barcelona. Walt Stillman's new comedy  
OPENS: Friday  
REVIEW: Thursday



**BOOKS**  
A Machiavelli for our times? Michael Dobbs reveals the ultimate fate of Francis Urquhart in *The Final Cut*  
IN THE SHOPS: Today  
REVIEW: Saturday

**ARTS**  
TUESDAY TO  
FRIDAY  
IN SECTION 2

# Lights make Hands work

Since leaving the RSC, Terry Hands has been busy. Now he's back in London, and back with Shakespeare, Alan Franks reports

Having admitted that he is not one of nature's free-lance directors, freelance director Terry Hands adds that he is glad not to be running the National Theatre. The question arises simply because he happens to be working there at present, and because he was for 25 years a company man to his fingertips at the Royal Shakespeare Company, first as associate director and later as chief executive. Even after three years away from a full-time life at the Barbican, the mere juxtaposition of Hands and National sounds strange, as though there has been some confusion with the press releases.

Hands is across the water on the South Bank in order to direct *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The choice of play makes his journey circular, since this was the first Shakespeare that he directed at the RSC, in 1968. It is among the most popular plays with audiences, and is generally thought to have been written in a fortnight at the behest of Queen Elizabeth. Having seen the two parts of *Henry IV*, the story runs, she had become something of a Falstaff groupie and wanted to see how the fat knight fared in love. This character, bold enough to draw Robert Stephens for the RSC *Henry* three years ago, now claims Denis Quilley.

When I left the RSC, Hands says, "I was a 'working' one, or an administrative one. I had worked with Peter Brook in the 1960s, and part of me wanted to get back to doing that sort of thing. I went to [the former] East Germany and did a play that involved circus performers, elephants, tigers and bears. He has also directed his own translation of *Hamlet* in Paris, opera in Bremen, the Anthony Sher *Tamara* back at the RSC, and plans working visits to Brussels and Norway this year.

When Richard Eyre approached him to direct at the National, preferably something 17th-century, large and bustling enough to fill the Olivier stage, Hands reasoned that as he had recently done a string of plays dealing with psychosis, serial murder and genocide and the like, a rumbustious comedy sounded just the job.

*Merry Wives* is the only Shakespeare comedy set explicitly in England, and has a strong, largely bucolic appeal for Hands. Being an internationalist has in no way diluted the Anglophile in him: if anything, the reverse. He speaks with romance and large-gestured passion about the joys of returning to the sceptred isle, "where compromise is a virtue, not a fault, where ambiguity is not necessarily viewed as a negative, and where language is variously spelt because its origins are aural, not literary". Paris may offer such genuine joys as dented cars, rude waiters, and smells that cannot be imagined in London, but even Racine and Corneille cower beside Shakespeare's sublime heights.

He says that immediately after leaving the RSC he was a "little demob-happy". "I wasn't really sure what aspects of company life I would miss. I can say for certain that I do not miss the endless, endless begging for money. But I do miss seeing people develop over three or five years or, for example, huring Nick Hytner away from opera. Although you inevitably enjoy great liberty as a freelance, you can't say that such-and-such a member of your cast would be perfect for a particular part in a particular play, which someone else could then direct."

At 54, Hands is still producing children as well as plays, his young pest having been born post-Barbican. From his dress, and his gait, not to mention his unblinded advocacy of theatre subsidy, you might think that rumours of the end of the 1960s had been exaggerated. He abhors the late 1980s quite as much as you would expect, and ruefully lists what he regards as casualties in the war against Thatcherism.

"By the middle and end of that decade, when the whole macho-manager fraud had got under way, subsidies were cut as 'not productive', and the Theatre in Education schemes were reduced. So what we



Terry Hands and Maureen Beattie in rehearsal for *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, which opens this week at the Olivier theatre in London

are now seeing, inevitably, is not only a diminution in the size of the theatre-going public, but also a reduction in the levels of basic training in what to expect when they do go. By and large, when you see a musical, you don't require help in making sense of it. But if you are going to *Othello*, the chances are that you do."

As for *Merry Wives*, he considers it not only an immensely rich comedy, but also fascinating for the light it sheds on Shakespeare's other writing during the first few years of the 17th century. As for the notion that Shakespeare ran it up in a fortnight, Hands believes that is not out of the question. "But I think we have to be careful about this. There was in Shakespeare's company repertoire, a few years before, a play called *A Jealous Comedy*, which has not come down to us. My guess is that they got this out, made the seducer Falstaff, kept the Ford figure, worked it up, then hurled it on.

"One legend is that he took the part of George Page, and I find that quite plausible. We know that at that time he took the part of the ghost in *Hamlet*, and he, like Ford, turns up when the play is going wrong, or about to go wrong. So he could well have given himself some kind of supervisory role. He also had a daughter who was courted by a doctor, and this part of *Merry Wives* is to some extent his own story. In the same way, you can't do *Hamlet* and not know that its author had a son of that name, who died. Certainly there would have been an emotional truth in *Merry Wives* which they could all relate to, and make use of. It may have been written as a comedy, but it was chronologically quite close to *Othello*, and there are elements that show a deep preoccupation with those same themes of jealousy."

● *The Merry Wives of Windsor* is in preview at the Olivier Theatre, SE1 (0171-928 2252), and opens on Thursday

Smarrast Central, but not in these hands. *Night Music* came to life in a delightful piece of illustrative performance in which Jackson introduced "The Man who wrote *Danny Boy*" by recounting his efforts to find out why "Danny Boy" is his favourite song. He talked us entertainingly through the classic ballad, explaining its modulations and minor chords like the hip music teacher you never had. Lessons continue tonight in Bristol.

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POP: Paul Sexton enjoys an entertaining music lesson from a versatile veteran

## Man of many different notes

work of classical overtones that bears little relation to any of his previous incarnations as new waver, Forties revivalist, pop balladeer or film scorer. But Hands' music was certainly ready for Joseph's coat of many colours. He remains

an unlikely success on stage, overcoming his natural reticence and using sympathetic musicians to create an engagingly relaxed review of his now-panoramic background. Opening alone at the piano with "Home Town", he then asked: "You don't really know what to expect tonight, do you? Well, I don't know what to expect from you either, so we're even."

But we had a pretty good idea: Jackson is not the type to assume a fresh creative stance to the exclusion of his past

endeavours, so the new material was well complemented by songs from the days when he was a more favoured flavour. "Real Men", for example, was dedicated to Newt Gingrich, whom he memorably described as "like John Major, but in colour". Accompanied by a three-piece including his faithful bassist Graham Maby, Jackson revisited 1991's *Laughter & Lust* and later tripped back to his "jumpy" jive phase for Louis Jordan's "What's the Use of Getting Sober?"

He retains his policy of constantly rearranging his best-known material and cranked his most audacious trick yet, starting "Is She Really Going Out With Him", pausing to chide the audience over its lamentable time-keeping, then substituting the vocal of "It's Different for Girls" and weaving the two hits together. It could have been a trip to

Joe Jackson  
Apollo, W6

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ballad, on its playlist. Then sustained support from the independents took it to No 2. Dion, 25, newly married to her 53-year-old manager, took time out from her honeymoon to perform the song on last week's *Top of the Pops*.

● *TEENAGE* heart-throb and occasional West End leading man Michael Ball is being tipped to join Patti LaPave in *Passion*, the latest Stephen Sondheim musical, which is due to reach London in August. The show would give Ball a second chance at Sondheim, following the aborted West End production last year of *Putting It Together*, cancelled due to injuries to its star, Carol Burnett.

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Indian Ink

COVENT Garden's dancing star, Irak Mukhamedov, is following in the footsteps of the late Rudolf Nureyev by starring in *The King and I*. Mukhamedov will play the Siamese despot for three performances in a new production in May, part of the Covent Garden Festival. Nureyev enjoyed mixed fortunes in the part made famous by Yul Brynner when he starred in a 1959 American staging. The reviews were bad, but the pay cheque was good — a reputed \$1 million.

● THAT feisty television detective, Helen Mirren, will make her Broadway debut in the spring in *A Month In The Country*, the Turgenyev play in

which she won great acclaim in the West End last year. Mirren decided against taking to New York Bill Bryden's London production of *Month In The Country*. Instead, the new Roundabout Theatre staging will be by Scott Ellis. Opening night is April 20.

● *COULD* the sudden British success of French-Canadian star Céline Dion — her single "Think Twice" and album *The Colour Of My Love* are now both in the Top Three — be taken as a further indication of Radio 1's waning influence? The station was reluctant to put Dion's song, a stately

ballad, on its playlist. Then sustained support from the independents took it to No 2. Dion, 25, newly married to her 53-year-old manager, took time out from her honeymoon to perform the song on last week's *Top of the Pops*.

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**The Merry Wives of Windsor**  
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Now previewing  
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Designer: Timothy O'Brien  
Music: Guy Woolfenden

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Fairest Isle



Vaccines of the future may come from plants □ Preventing another Hillsborough □ Why the sands have fallen silent



**SOON** holiday-makers anxious to avoid catching malaria may be urged to go away and eat their greens. Tom Turpen, a biologist from California, has shown that an anti-malaria vaccine can be produced in the leaves of tobacco plants infected with a genetically modified virus. Ultimately, he suggests, it may be possible to protect against some diseases simply by eating the leaves of vaccine-producing plants — though not, presumably, tobacco.

For the moment, he is happy to have shown how effective plants may be as sources of vaccine. Dr Turpen, who works for the company Bioscience Technologies, of Vacaville, worked in collaboration with three scientists from the malaria programme of the Naval Medical Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland.

They report their results in the same issue of *Biotechnology* as a team from the Institute for Plant Genetics and Tissue Culture in Gatersleben, Germany, who have

## A green way to health



SCIENCE BRIEFING  
Nigel Hawkes

used tobacco to produce an enzyme, xylanase, which is widely used in the paper and food industries.

The striking thing about the experiments is the large quantities of biological materials that can be produced at very low cost. Dr Turpen estimates that a hectare of tobacco plants could produce 250 kilograms of vaccine a month. "Plants are an incredibly inexpensive source of protein, so for vaccines required on a large scale they are an appropriate but unexplored option," he says.

Dr Stephen Hoffman, of the

Institute, started by identifying proteins on the surface of the malaria parasite that trigger an immune response in humans. They then created synthetic genes containing the recipe for making these proteins. Armed with the gene, Dr Turpen and colleagues inserted it into tobacco mosaic virus, and then infected tobacco plants with the modified virus.

The result was a plant that made the protein. To extract it, Dr Turpen ground up the leaves and separated out the protein by centrifuge or filter. He has since shown that the protein

does, indeed, provoke an immune response against the parasite when tested in a mouse.

A similar technique was used by the German workers, who report that every 100 milligrams of fresh tobacco leaf produces 37 micrograms of the enzyme. They also showed that the plants suffered no ill-effects from creating this foreign protein. Tobacco was chosen as the vehicle in both cases because it is well-understood and widely used as a test-bed — the fruit fly of plant biotechnology.

These two groups are not alone in researching the virtues of plant-derived vaccines. A group at Texas A&M, *New Scientist* reports, have grown plants that produce a possible vaccine against hepatitis B, while researchers at the John Innes Centre, in Norwich, are testing a plant-derived vaccine against foot-and-mouth disease.

The ultimate, of course, would be a vaccine that could be taken simply by eating the plants it had been grown in. Dr Turpen is examining ways of using edible plants to make anti-cholera vaccines. That would avoid the process of extraction, and the plants could be grown almost anywhere.

## Crowd safety



A NEW computer-based system has been developed to avert disasters like that at the Hillsborough football stadium.

Researchers from King's and University Colleges in London have developed the system, which uses images from surveillance cameras and sounds an alarm at the first sign of overcrowding.

Trials have already taken place at Heathrow Airport and at King's Cross and Liverpool Street stations in London, and Dr Sergio Velastin, one of the system's originators, is encouraged by the results. "In the long-term, the chances of an incident on the scale of Hillsborough ever happening again should be drastically reduced," he says.

Closed-circuit TV cameras are now common in places where crowds gather, but operators may get so bored looking at their screens that they miss a dangerous situation developing.

The computer first digitises the image into a grid of more than a quarter of a million picture elements, or pixels. It then compares this with a reference image containing no people, and labels each pixel as either part of the crowd or part of the background.

The number of people appearing in the image is then assumed to be proportional to the number of pedestrian pixels. When the density reaches a pre-set limit, an alarm alerts the operator.

## On song



ONCE, there were beaches around the world whose main claim to fame was their singing sands.

People striding out across the beach would be accompanied by a steady chirping sound which has been compared to the music of the koto, or Japanese harp.

Singing sands seem far less common than they once were, and Japanese researcher Shigeo Miwa thinks he knows why. At a

symposium held in Japan recently he said that microscopic pollutants, including dust, soil, oil and chemical detergents, have silenced the beaches.

On a visit to Pensacola Beach in Florida in 1992, Dr Miwa took a sample of sand. The sand there is 99.7 pure silica quartz, the type that ought to sing like a canary. But Dr Miwa reported that it was silent until he had boiled it for 40 minutes in clean water to remove pollutants. That did the trick — the *nakizumi*, as the Japanese call it, was restored to full voice.

Singing sand beaches were fairly common around the world before the 1940s, but many have been choked by erosion, acid rain and chemicals that dilute the high quartz content responsible for producing the sound, Dr Miwa said.

The sample is now on display at the Niwa Sand Museum in southern Japan, a place that sounds like a joke but almost certainly isn't. There are now plans by the Florida-Japan Institute of the University of West Florida to set up a similar display in Pensacola. Look to your laurels, Disney-world.

# Will we ever make sense of awareness?

**B**ooks about consciousness, popular or technical, sober or polemical, appear at a gathering pace. Their authors often arrive with imposing reputations from other intellectual arenas. Among recent contributors to the discussion, Francis Crick started out by determining the structure of DNA. Gerald Edelman made a path-breaking contribution to immunology and Sir Roger Penrose is an eminent mathematician.

Is their fascination with consciousness akin to Isaac Newton's interest in theology, a diversion for brilliant minds once the thirst for solvable problems has been quenched? Or has there been real growth in our understanding of the nature of awareness?

To make real progress we need to know what we mean by "consciousness". What do I have in mind if I say that you are conscious? I imply, at least, you are awake, capable of enjoying experience and, as a rule, capable of responding to it. This is consciousness in the sense of "vigilance" or "arousal". I may imply that you are enjoying experience of a certain kind with its own subjective feel, a shiver of pleasure or a pang of pain. This is consciousness as the content of awareness. We sometimes use

**Dr Adam Zeman on how scientists are trying to unravel the mystery of consciousness**

the word in a third extended sense, to encompass our capacity for knowledge of all kinds. Most of this knowledge is unconscious — in the second sense — most of the time.

Our capacity for awareness, and the experience it allows us to enjoy, are fundamental to the value we place on our lives. The prolongation of human life, where one can be certain that consciousness is lost forever, is generally regarded as a wasted effort. Consciousness matters.

Armed with a rough definition we can rejoin the main issue: have we learnt anything new about consciousness? Taking a long view of the research of the past century, there have been undeniable advances.

The realisation in the 1920s that it is possible to record the local electrical activity of the brain from the scalp — the

EEG — led to a series of discoveries which have clarified the neurological basis of waking, sleep and many disorders of consciousness, in particular epilepsy.

While the EEG drew attention to concealed rhythms underlying our conscious states, work with brain-injured patients and experimental animals indicated that the rhythms are controlled by the brain stem, the apex of the spinal cord tucked in at the base of the skull. On present knowledge, death of the brain stem, and the loss of the activating system it contains, destroys forever the capacity for consciousness.

Anaesthetists are expert in the temporary theft of consciousness, and have developed an armoury of drugs with which to accomplish this. There is detailed knowledge of the action of some of these drugs, for example morphine and related opiates. Establishing the steps by which the remainder subvert awareness is an important future goal.

These discoveries have illuminated the capacity for consciousness. There have been comparable advances in the understanding of its content. I wrote here recently (*The Times*, November 28) about the numerous maps of the visual world which have been identified in the cerebral cortex. Each takes a specialised interest in an aspect of the visual world, for example colour and movement. The rich and coherent image we enjoy when we open our eyes is the unlikely creation of parallel activity in as many as 30

**This debate is as old as human thought**

gle compelling theory of consciousness. But most current proposals for such a synthesis emphasise the prodigious interconnectedness of the brain, the source of an almost infinitely complex neural music.

Crick's recent book, *The Astonishing Hypothesis: scientific search for the soul* (Simon & Schuster, £15.99) closes, half-seriously, with a very specific hypothesis, detailing the cell type and brain layers he suspects of supporting consciousness. Edelman's more abstract proposal in *Bright Air, Brilliant Fire: on the matter of the mind* (Penguin, £7.99) argues for the

importance of "a special set of relationships between perception, concept formation and memory". Penrose, in *Shadows of the Mind: search for the missing science of consciousness* (OUP, £16.99), looks to fundamental developments in basic physics to provide the basis for a new science of consciousness.

Will the gradual advance of our understanding of the brain lead to a really satisfying explanation of awareness? Philosophers in the mould of Daniel Dennett, author of *Consciousness Explained*, are confident that it will. In their view the problem of consciousness goes no deeper than the "problem", say, of breathing.

Others believe that the kind of work I have described misses the point entirely — that the gulf between events in a brain and what passes in a mind remains as mysterious as ever. Colin McGinn, in particular, has argued that we shall never, can never, make sense of the distillation of experience from the brain.

This debate is as old as human thought and there's plenty of life in it yet. But we are surely a little closer now to understanding the physical basis of mind.

Dr Adam Zeman is a neurologist at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, and the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.



Sir Roger Penrose: mathematician fascinated by the conscious



Francis Crick: from discovering DNA structure to detailing brain layers



Gerald Edelman: immunologist with an abstract explanation of awareness

Galatea of the Spheres, by Salvador Dali: our brains produce a complex neural music

## A fisherman's spy in the sky

Nick Nuttall reports on the latest ship-to-shoal satellite

**F**or centuries, fishermen have looked for birds feeding and colour changes on the surface of the sea to help them to pin-point catches. In May, the satellite SeaStar will be launched from Cape Canaveral to bring the latest technology to their aid.

From a vantage hundreds of miles above the Earth, it is designed to "see" tell-tale shadows and hues in the oceans which may indicate shoals or birds feeding on fish on the surface. Its sensors can also detect warm ocean currents and the blues of algae upon which some species, such as sardines, depend.

Scientists have already found that existing heat-seeking satellites can pin-point promising fishing grounds. For example, bluefin tuna seem to prefer waters with a temperature range between 18°C and 20°C, whereas the best catches of yellowfin tuna are in sea water between 21°C and 24°C.

SeaStar promises to make fish detection even more sophisticated. David Bestwick, of the Vega Group, a firm based in Harpenden, Hertfordshire, said that it planned to combine the existing and SeaStar information and beam bulletins to fishermen at sea on the best places to put down their nets.

The service, called Starfish, is being developed by British companies and bodies including Vega, the Natural Environment Research Council, the British National Space Centre and Fishtec, a fishing consultancy with headquarters in London.

But what about the pressure on world fish stocks? John Eddom, a former trawler skipper now working for Fishtec,

recognises that the power and increased efficiency of the new technology may be harmful for some stocks unless it is carefully used. The Starfish service will be offered only to boats that also install satellite surveillance systems.

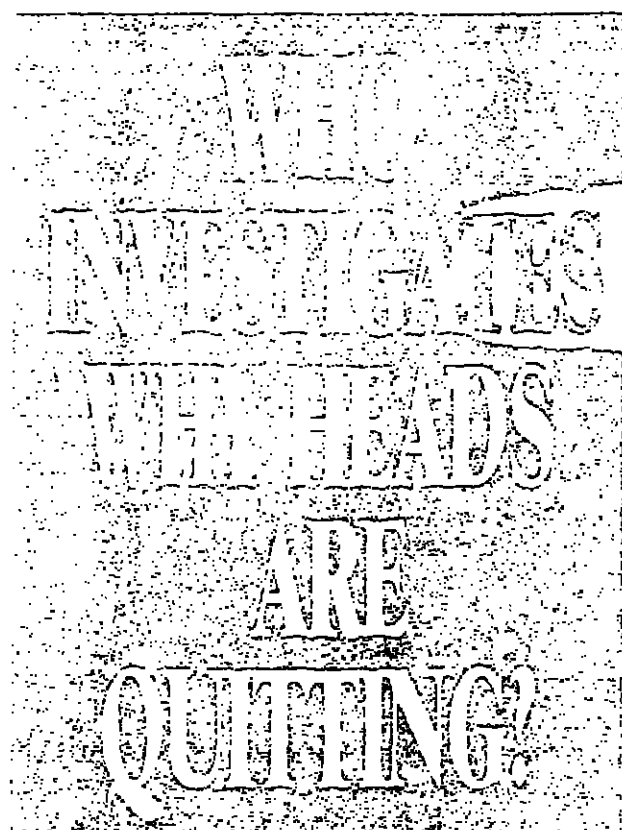
These will beam back via satellite a fishing vessel's location and a unique identity code to fisheries protection staff. They can then check if the boat is fishing illegally.

The surveillance satellites can swiftly tell if a vessel has put out nets by checking if it has slowed down to about two knots or becomes stationary.

"For fishermen there is an awful lot to be gained from this but whether it is good for the fish and fish stocks remains to be seen," Mr Eddom says. "Starfish has to be part of a surveillance system if it is not going to do more damage."



SeaStar target a shoal of fish



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# Lord of the markets

**Martin Ivens**  
meets a man who  
has masterminded  
radical assaults on  
the British State for  
40 years — with  
enormous success

Britain's most dangerous revolutionary is deceptively nice. He has the manner of a kindly, mildly eccentric Edwardian gentleman; he wears flamboyant waistcoats and sports even more flamboyant hats. Shrouded in the smoke that billows from his pipe, his merry eyes burning like coals, he reminds me of nothing so much as Gandalf, the good wizard from the *Lord of the Rings*, created by another Edwardian gent, J.R.R. Tolkien. But for all that he still is a deadly enemy of democracy.

"Ralph", the name given to him by his fellow conspirators, or Lord Harris of High Cross as the world knows him, could afford to sit back and rest on his destructive achievements. Central planning now lies in ruins, incomes policy is an abandoned wreck and Britain's nationalised industries have been annihilated. But Ralph and his grimly determined comrades, Arthur Seldon, are urging their disciples at the Institute of Economic Affairs on to ever more furious assaults on the State.

"I am very critical of democracy," says Ralph, the perpetual subversive who has just turned a spry 70. "Politics has meant unlimited democracy and unlimited claims on national income." I look over my shoulder but no policeman rushes into the Palm Court of the Waldorf Hotel to arrest him. For, as Chesterton observed in *The Man who was Thursday*, if you bellow your views from the rooftops, the British will regard you as a crank not a threat to the body politic.

Ralph, of course, owes allegiance not to democracy as it is vulgarly understood but to the market. His revolutionary Bible is Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*. "The market is a perpetual referendum. I was taught that by Lord (Lionel) Robbins. The market, however, can cater for even the faintest minorities — those who like fancy waistcoats (here he jabs a finger at his own maroon affair) or the collected words of Ted Heath."

"Market failure?" sports Ralph. "What about government failure? What about whole industries brought to destruction by government policies. What about the National Plan?" he asks indignantly. He has a point. Even the Labour Party now says planning is strictly for the birds and talks enthusiastically about markets. But it was not always so.

The Institute was founded in 1984 to counteract the influence of the Fabian Society. But it was successive crises on the home front, caused by the strain of financing two world wars, which brought state control into common Whitehall practice. Many of the keenest



Ralph Harris: at the IEA he provided a sanctuary for academics afraid to talk out loud about their "cranky" notions of economic liberalism

minds in Britain deplored the excesses of the Nazi and communist dictatorships, but regarded their ability to combat the effects of the Great Depression as superior to that of the capitalist democracies. It was a view widely held in the Conservative and Liberal parties as well as Labour.

Two catchphrases summed up the mood of the time: "The man in Whitehall knows best," said Douglas Jay of the newly triumphant Labour Party which nationalised heavy industries after the war, while even Conservatives agreed: "We are all socialists now."

The counter-attack by economic liberals got off to a chequered start. In 1944, when the great liberal economist Friedrich von Hayek published *The Road to Serfdom*, his polemical account of how socialism would lead to a progressive loss of liberty, it instantly became an intellectual sensation. But when Churchill took up the theme in exaggerated fashion in his notorious "Gestapo" speech during

the 1945 election campaign and went down to catastrophic defeat, the future of economic liberalism in all parties looked bleak. The Conservatives concluded on their return to power five years later that appeasement of the trade unions and the mixed economy were here to stay.

It was Hayek who commanded an old Estonian dairy farmer, Anthony Fisher, to renounce all hopes of a political career, to make money and to join with others in forming a scholarly research organisation to supply intellectuals in universities, schools and journalism and broadcasting with authoritative studies of the economic theory of markets and its application to practical affairs. According to plan, Fisher went on to build up a fortune in a broiler chicken business and formally created the IEA in 1955 with the help of a Liberal, Oliver Smedley.

The work of running the Institute was given to "two, nice working-class lads", as Ralph from Totten-

ham likes to describe himself and Arthur, the poor Jewish boy from the East End. Although both had distinguished academic careers behind them, Ralph and Arthur retained an unsuitability, an air, almost, of innocence.

Richard Cockett's excellent history of postwar think-tanks, *Thinking the Unthinkable*, shows how ideas about privatisation, reform of trade unions and even the invention of parking meters were dreamed up in succinct, easy-to-read IEA Hobart papers disseminated in all the right places. The Institute also provided a sanctuary for academics afraid to talk out loud about their "cranky" notions of economic liberalism. But even Cockett cannot quite capture the human factor which made their contribution so valuable. Niceness is a quality not to be underestimated. Cheerful Ralph and conscientious Arthur were not to be resisted.

Ever the sincere evangelist, Ralph is at pains to stress he is propagating no flimsy-hearted creed. A practising Anglican, he is at pains to stress that what Samuel Britan calls "self-chosen purpose" is highly moral. "Adam Smith wrote taking a Christian view based on the Ten Commandments. The Theory of Moral Sentiments preaches the *Wealth of Nations* set up a high ideal of our conduct as if our acts and thoughts were being observed by an impartial spectator." His bugbear is the bishops who tell him he is preaching a greed-is-good message when he believes that a free society is underpinned by individual moral responsibility.

Our interview over, we walk across the Aldwych. Lord Harris of High Cross is off to the Savoy for the Pipe-smoker of the Year award. "Tony Benn won it last year," he says. "He gave a damned fine speech."

In honour of Ralph Harris 70th birthday the IEA has produced a collection of his journalism. No, Prime Minister (EO).

MPs' families should not be dragged in

## Would the wives kindly leave the political stage

Politicians are looking younger all the time. We 1950s children can now point to quite eminent ministerial figures and reminisce happily about what prats they were at 19. It is strange to admit that you no longer belong to the cheeky generation-in-waiting: those are my contemporaries up there, making a fist of it. We are the fossils now.

If you are reading this from the haughty moral height of 25 years old, remember: you too will one day spot some moth-eaten old timeserver flanneling away on television, and realise with a shock that he is your age; or worse, your old flatmate. My own lot seem to specialise in minor sleaze: it is alarming to see someone wriggling around on the cash-for-questions pin when you remember borrowing his copy of a new magazine called *Private Eye*, to giggle about Harold Wilson and Kagan and the Lavender List. No body learns from history.

But some things do change, or ought to, with moving generations. Yesterday a barrister called Cherie Booth was exposed in *The Independent on Sunday* as having represented a Lancashire council against a penniless poll-tax defaulter, and advocated his return to prison. Moreover, the same Ms Booth, 15 months ago, delivered a paper to a conference of the Institute of Revenue, Rating and Valuation Officers on liability and commitment of debtors. This story, which in other circumstances could only have merited the dashing headline "Barrister does ordinary if rather depressing job", was front page news because Ms Booth is married to Tony Blair.

So up pops a campaigning clergyman, saying: "I understood that the Labour Party stood for justice", as if it had proved it didn't; the newspaper condemns her as "unwise", especially over the confederacy — even though it happened when John Smith was alive and well and some of us still thought Tony Blair was a footballer. It stinks.

Not Ms Booth's conduct of her job; on that, no comment. Barristers often argue causes they dislike, and the balance between their private and professional principles is uniquely tricky. If she had defended a murderer who proved guilty, would she have been condemned? No: what really stinks is the use of wives as political props at all. So, with the rise of the first generation in which a great many married women are serious professionals, it must stop.

We must give up the infantile practice of demanding two for one. We need intelligent admin-

istrators, not film stars or role models. Short of major crime or corruption, politicians' families are an irrelevance. When a surgeon is about to cut me open, I do not ask to see a photograph of his children. I neither know nor care whether the man who is selling me a computer system is gay or straight: only whether the stuff works. My children's headmaster's wife, as it happens, is a model of philanthropic decorum, displaying quietly impeccable dress sense; but frankly, as long as he was doing a good job he could shack up with anything from a fireman to a fan-dancer and it would be none of my business.

We have to grow up and judge Mr Blair and the rest by their deeds and ideas only. For some politicians that will be a deprivation: they will have to stop using their families as window-dressing. No more homely supportive Normas, no affable Denises or banner-waving Glenysies; not unless they are doing it in their own right. We must relieve wives of the task of shopping with Mrs Yeltsin while the husbands confer. Let researchers and aides provide the "atmosphere dimension" for parties if they must. Let constituency wives get on with their own lives, unless their MP husband formally hires them as PA. The men do just that. Free the women, now!

It could be that the politicalwife business has flourished out of control because of 15 years' of Conservative power. Tory wives are perhaps more likely to be willing and passive appendages to their husbands' careers: they tend to have the income for it, and some are still close to the old country culture that thought it normal for wives to take their husband's identity. Labour families are less able to afford such a life, their women less likely to put up with it.

Yet Labour stupidly bought into the idea, and is much to blame for presenting Tony Blair as a package. She cooperated by sitting on the platform at the party conference doing the Nancy Reagan adoring stare at him, and holding hands in public. Maybe now, with Tony Blair at the trickiest moment of his leadership, needing every ounce of nerve over Clause Four, they see the trap they fell into. If we are to have a Labour government with ministers in their forties and their wives in real jobs, attitudes must change.

I wish to help. I hereby solemnly pledge to the nation my total, principled, deliberate lack of interest in any political spouse.

**LIBBY PURVES**

Rachel Kelly meets a young musician with looks, glamour and an whirling publicity machine

## How to lose your fiddle and find fame

The minute her £200,000 violin was stolen last week, the world woke up to Vanessa-Mae Nicholson. Overnight, she became our most famous young classical musician. In between footage recounting the theft of her 1761 Italian-made Guadagnini, *News at Ten* slipped shots of the glamorous half-Thai, half-Singaporean at play.

Vanessa-Mae herself gave good, quotable copy. The violin, she said, was not just an antique, she had a relationship with it. "It's called Gismo after the nice furry creature in the film, *Gremlins*. I felt this morning as if my pet had died."

Her publicity machine whirled in the hope of alerting auction houses and dealers and stopping the thieves reselling their ill-gotten gains. But a cynic might have noted a postscript. The reports also mentioned EMI's release of Vanessa-Mae's first single, the Bach Toccata and Fugue in D Minor. Traumatic though the theft clearly was, it has had the unintended result of attracting much more interest than most musical launches have managed.

Previously, Vanessa-Mae's fame had been confined to a fairly select coterie of classical musical lovers. Her talent is not in question. Michael Gough Matthews, former director of the Royal College of Music, describes her as a "true child prodigy". "What she has," he says, "like Mozart

and Mendelssohn, is maturity beyond her years."

Vasko Vassilev, concertmaster at Covent Garden and former concertmaster at the Opéra de Lyon, says: "There are thousands of young violinists with wonderful technique, but they do not have her spirituality. For this, you have to go back to Jascha Heifetz, Yehudi Menuhin and Fritz Kreisler."

Her violin teacher and Professor of Music at the Royal College of Music, Dr Felix Andrievsky, says: "She looks like she was born with a violin."

In fact, she began to play the piano at three and the violin at five. At eight she won the British Young Pianist of the Year prize, but decided to concentrate on the violin. She spent six months in Peking perfecting her technique. Aged ten, she recorded her first concert with the Philharmonia Orchestra. At 12, she was touring the world with the London Mozart Players. By 14 she had recorded the Tchaikovsky and Beethoven violin concertos.

She is now 16. This new single sees her play the Toccata and Fugue rearranged in funky form by the pop producer Mike Batt, better known for his work with Simon and Garfunkel. Later in the month she will launch an album of ten pieces, including one composed by her which she describes as a "techno-acoustic fusion" — bastardised class-



Vanessa-Mae Nicholson: like Mozart, a true child prodigy

cal musical to you and me — though she dislikes the term and prefers to talk about a "new style of music".

An exceptional musical track record, clearly. But many other bright young musicians have similar credits and commitment to their name. Vanessa-Mae also has looks, glamour, a wealthy and sophisticated background, and now EMI promoting her

first single. She is photographed on the front cover emerging from the sea in Ibiza in a see-through white dress.

We met in a basement bar in Kensington. She is exceptionally pretty, attracting admiring glances from ageing popstars in the bar like Peter Gabriel. Her jeans are Levis, her jacket Ralph Lauren, her top Jean Paul Gaultier, her coat Donna Karan.

She was born in Singapore, the daughter of a Thai mother and a Singaporean father. Her mother, a pianist and lawyer, remarried an English solicitor, Graham Nicholson.

Vanessa-Mae has now adopted him as her father and remains an only child. Life has ever been privileged. Brought up in Kensington, she went to private schools. Now she winters in St Moritz and jet-skis in summer. She holds birthday parties at Planet Hollywood. She has a business manager and personal office of three to organise her schedule. She has the confidence and sophistication of a 16-year-old going on 26.

There is a ready-prepared and fluent answer to every question, in keeping with a girl who is taking four A levels and obtained nothing lower than a B in her seven GCSEs.

Not for her a life of simply repeating a classical repertoire. "I was born and bred a classical musician," she says. "But as soon as I was ease with the classical violin repertoire, I wanted to do more. I want to take the violin a step further, to do something more, to interpret original composers."

She says the Beatles are as much an influence as Beethoven. She loves Paganini, with whom she shares a birthday, but cites the Gypsy Kings and Santana as favoured composers. She talks as though she might have just read a *How to Succeed* book, using phrases such as "because I set my own goals".

Her next aim is to launch her single worldwide before work on another record. "I know I want to do music with a very strong rhythm," she says. Her greatest happiness though, would be the return of her violin. For a moment she looks as vulnerable as any other 16-year-old.

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## Matthew Parris



**Sometimes it can be highly politic not to correct people's erroneous impressions**

This column comes to you thanks to the US scientific base at Palmer Station, Antarctica. But to begin at the beginning... Over Christmas, Hong Kong's newspapers featured the sad case of "Dr" Poon. Poon was working at the university under what was found to be an assumed doctorate. He was sacked. Many readers of *The South China Morning Post* will have felt a measure of sympathy towards poor Poon. When he applied for his post he had been studying for a postgraduate degree at an American university. He had been told his thesis was proceeding well. His doctorate, he thought, was assured. Sketching out his CV, the hapless Poon anticipated its arrival. He landed the Hong Kong job. He was performing well at it. Then—disaster. The doctorate did not materialise. Poon said nothing, but carried on working.

Reader, hesitate before you condemn. The unlucky Poon was guilty first of hope, then of a slight inaccuracy of the kind that would make him a fine Diary editor on Fleet Street, and lastly of silence. Are there no worse sins?

Take mine. I have been pretending to be an MP for years. I recommend this to all readers of *The Times*. MPs get excellent service. People think you have the power to make a great song and dance if displeased. Now the world will quickly rumble a fake duke, and can sense immediately when a chap is unlikely to be a dustman. A few simple questions will unmask a bogus electrical engineer. But no want of delicacy, no depth of vulgarity, no excess of ignorance, no, not even the wildest shores of lunacy can be allowed in evidence that someone has not been elected to Parliament. In no sense does the honour instill a matching demeanour. And 650 of them (plus probably thousands more imposters) roam the land. Sometimes, bowing to Madam Speaker, a chap will wander into the Chamber whom nobody has ever seen before. There are, in short, few assertions in which we may feel less secure than that an individual is not—or, indeed, is—an MP.

When I left the Commons, East Midlands Electricity continued to bill me as "MP" for two years, and to give excellent service. For a year I carried on receiving on a document marked "secret": the weekly Conservative Whip. Not long ago, a Foreign Office minister wrote inquiring if I had any spare MP's tickets for FM's Questions. After seven years, BT still thinks I'm an MP. Their bills say so and their vans rush out in storms to repair my line. Like Poon, I have said nothing. When a friend

did not need his "special offer to MPs" subscription to *The Spectator*, I gave him the money and he gave them my address. Thus far my sin, like Poon's, had been of silence. But three years ago I went further. Seeing an offer of laptop computers at half price to parliamentarians only, I filled out the application. I did not specifically say that I was an MP, but confessed to making no mention that I was not. However it seemed unwise to apply also for the "continuing care" repair cover, so I drew the line at that. The computer arrived.

And an excellent laptop it has proved! Some 600 of my articles have come to you by way of this machine. As MPs are not an economically disadvantaged group, the diversion from their service to yours of a cut-price laptop is a way of redistributing wealth from the rich to the poor—a significant blow in the struggle for a just society, of which Roy Hattersley at least should approve.

Returning from Hong Kong three weeks ago, however, the keyboard began to stick. There were a few days in which to get it fixed before leaving for Antarctica. I had no service guarantee—unlisted in the Yellow Pages—were presumably outside London. No technician I rang could undertake to return the laptop fast. I left for Chile with a dodgy machine.

Chile is a can-do place, but even the excellent—if mysteriously named Sebastian Camus, our Santiago guide, could not get my laptop fixed in the few hours we had there. And Ushuaia in the Argentine Tierra del Fuego proved better shopping for harpoons than computers.

We sailed for Antarctica. In a stormy crossing of Drake Passage the keyboard worsened. In our wake the wandering albatross mocked as I tried to type. We crossed the Polar circle and landed on the Antarctic peninsula. The seals had no knowledge of information technology, the penguins were full of advice but knew nothing, and the whales, if they knew, would not tell. And so to Palmer Station, on Anvers Island, where the US has a scientific base. Its computer technician, Greg Schaffer, showed us round the neat, bleak, iron buildings, beside which great glaciers crack and roar. "Any questions?" he said. "How do you put up with the winter darkness?" asked one of our group. "Do supplies get in when you're icebound?" asked another. "Can you fix my laptop?" I asked. He could, and did. And I didn't even have to pretend to be an MP.

Confronted with Hitler and Stalin, the Pope failed by being unready to embrace martyrdom

# The importance of being more than Pius

William Rees-Mogg

As one of a group of British journalists, I had a private audience with Pope Pius XII in 1955: we had been invited to visit Rome by Shell Italiana for some device purpose connected with the politics of the Italian oil business, and the public relations team had access to the Vatican. As he was introduced to each of us, we bowed; I do not think I kissed his ring, more out of embarrassment than principle. He asked each of us where we lived. I replied "London". "I love London," he commented. My memory is that he went on to say much the same of Glasgow and Birmingham, but 40 years later, my memory may be faulty.

The Pope left two impressions. The first was that he was a deeply spiritual man; the second that he was an almost entirely segregated figure, remote from the world for which he prayed. The Vatican in those days seemed much more a court than a government, with the Pope like one of those exorbitant Japanese emperors of the 18th century, who reigned but did not rule. No doubt somewhere in the Curia, cautious and conservative, decisions were being made in conformity with what were believed to be his wishes.

In the 1980s I served on a Vatican committee, which had the splendid title of *International Committee of the Pontifical Council for Culture*. We had an annual meeting, which also included an audience with the Pope, and on one occasion I doubt if anyone ever lunched with Pius XII. Pope John Paul II is also a man with an impressive spiritual faith, but he possesses an altogether different temperament, active where Pius was contemplative, using the power of the papacy to intervene in the contemporary world, where Pius used it to preside over a tradition.

I do not doubt that John Paul II would have handled the challenge of Nazism quite differently from Pius XII, and more effectively. The failure

of the Vatican to devise a strategy to deal with Hitler may well have convinced John XXIII that the Church needed the radical renewal which emerged from the Second Vatican Council. It was that council which in its turn made possible the election of a Polish Pope of active temperament. The Vatican's failure to face up to the evil of the dictators discredited the particular kind of ecclesiastical leadership that is associated with the name of Pius. I doubt if the world will ever see a Pope Pius XIII.

Pius XII was the heir to many of the policies of two of his predecessors, Pius IX and Pius X. Pius IX responded to the unification of Italy and the loss of the papal territories by making himself the prisoner in the Vatican, by withdrawing from a world in which the Pope was no longer a temporal prince. He also withdrew the Church from the intellectual life of the 19th century; in 1864, five years after Darwin's *The Origin of Species*, he published his encyclical, *Quanta Cura*, which condemned 16 "errors of the age"; that was accompanied by the *Syllabus of Errors*, which listed no fewer than 80 censured propositions. The *Syllabus of Errors* has fairly been described as "a veritable embodiment of religious narrow-mindedness and cringing servility to papal authority". Pius IX endeavored to reinforce this ultra-conservative withdrawal from the world by the decrees of the First Vatican Council in 1870.

This tendency to retreat from the

struggle with reality was reinforced by the reign of Pope Pius X—again a very holy man—who became Pope in 1903. Pius X became the persecutor of the modernists in the Catholic Church, some of whom were indeed unorthodox but whose main proposed reforms were the inspiration of Vatican II. Pius X might well have regarded that council with horror as the triumph of modernism over his view of the Church.

Pius XII chose his name to show his loyalty to the view of the Catholic

peacefully of natural causes. The tradition of the early Church was that the first nine Popes were all also martyrs.

Pius XII came from the tradition of withdrawal to the Vatican cloisters. This was not an altogether unworthy tradition—there is a place in religious life for prayer, silence and retreat. Had it been the fortune of Pius XII to become abbot of some great monastery, he might be remembered in a narrow circle as a man of personal sanctity. But he had the misfortune to be the Pope, most directly in the eye of the 20th-century storm. He had to contend with the evils of both communism and Nazism, with the Gulag and Auschwitz. He did so with the spiritual fortitude and experience of a 19th-century priest, though with a certain additional training in diplomacy. It was something, but it was not enough.

Last week, the BBC2 programme *Reputations* looked specifically at his failure to denounce the Nazi massacre of the Jews. There is, I think, no doubt that his first priority was to protect and preserve the Catholic community in Europe. He saw them as his flock, and by the end of 1940 almost all of Europe's Catholics outside Ireland, and the British minority, were under Nazi or Fascist power. He was better aware than many of his critics that communism was an evil and as genocidal as Nazism. He tried to follow a policy of covert assistance to Jews, rather than open denunciation, which he believed

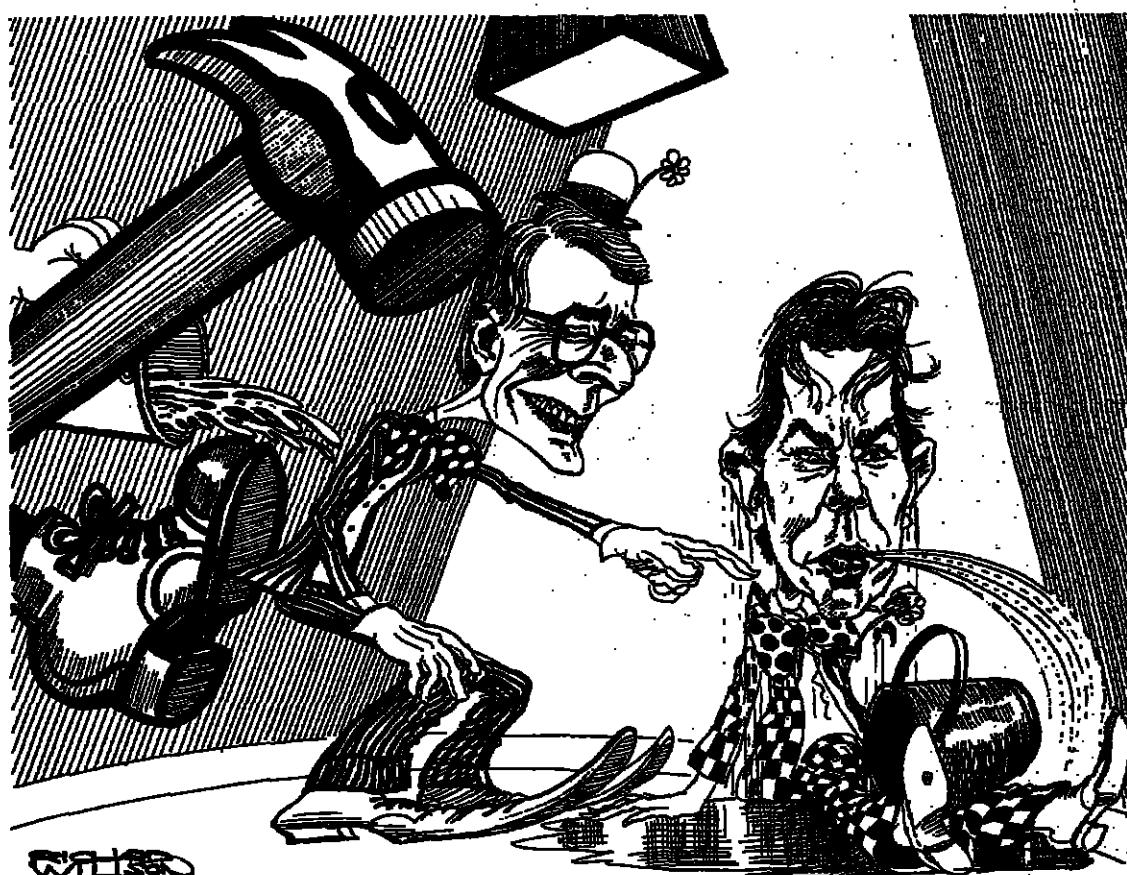
would provoke further retaliation. His policy did in fact save many Jews. Perhaps half a million or a million were helped to survive by Catholic agencies and support of one sort or another. His policy also helped the Catholic Church itself to survive, which is a prime responsibility for any Pope. Without the Church, Stalin would have been more powerful in Europe after 1945.

One can also argue on the Pope's side the extraordinary silence of the Allies. All the intelligence sources must have told Churchill and Roosevelt of the progress of the Final Solution. They neither published what they knew nor denounced the Holocaust nor bombed the death camps. If the allied governments, who had little or nothing to lose by frankness, decided to keep more or less quiet, the Pope, who had a whole community to lose, can hardly be made the focus of blame. They, after all, were men of power; he had been trained as a man of prayer.

Yet I think the thrust of the criticism is justified. Pius XII failed the Jews, and thereby failed the Church. He took too narrow and limited a view of his responsibilities. He was faced with evil incarnate, and tried to evade rather than confront it. I am sure that John Paul II would have handled matters otherwise, would have been a more open voice of conscience, would have accepted the risks of martyrdom, both for himself and for his Church. I believe, indeed, that he would never have become the Pope, would never have been elected, if the Church had not felt it necessary to leave behind the cloistered tradition associated with the name of Pius. The witness of the Christian Church has historically been one of martyrdom. It would have been better if the Catholic Church had accepted the risk of martyrdom in the Nazi period. Prudence and prayer were not enough. Human affairs require a more active courage.

## Now for Labour's specifics

Peter Riddell says Tory MPs should beware of celebrating their recovery too soon



Until the late 1970s, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition would spend their Sundays at home with their families, with perhaps the occasional telephone call to colleagues. No longer. At just after 11.30 yesterday morning, I noticed a group of people in New Palace Yard sheltering from the rain, a highly unusual sight at Westminster on a Sunday morning. At the centre of the huddle were Tony Blair and John Prescott, surrounded by media advisers: co-ordinating, as they admitted, their approach to their two television interviews yesterday. It was a revealing vignette of how politics now works, as well of the current wariness shown by the Labour leadership.

Labour is suddenly on the defensive. The political stockmarket has turned upside down since Christmas. John Major, who had been touching record lows, is now a fashionable buy, while Tony Blair, the growth stock of 1994, has become a sell. These verdicts are premature. Pundits and politicians who deplore short-termism in the City should be wary of falling into the same trap. What financial analysts call the fundamentals have not changed much.

Mr Major has undoubtedly made a strong personal start to the year. He has been in self-confident and relaxed form in interviews, at his Downing Street news conference, and at Question Time. Commons exchanges have a disproportionate impact on the morale of Tory MPs. But being cheered by John Sykes, David Shaw, Jacques Arnold and similar Tory yahoos is not going to win back many former Tory supporters. They may be more concerned about rising interest rates, a patchy housing market

and worries over rail privatisation. There are admittedly some signs of a reduction in the bitter Tory in-fighting over Europe. Mr Major's "thus far and no further" line on big constitutional changes at the inter-governmental conference next year has received widespread support from Tory MPs. The leadership—including yesterday even the normally rumbustious Kenneth Clarke—is keen to heal the rift with the nine whipless Euro-rebels. Ministers offered a mild response to their manifesto, even though its demands are incompatible with remaining in the European Union. But there is a distinction between this tactical truce and big differences within the party, and the Cabinet, over future strategy. For all the repeated government claims about the rest of Europe moving against "federalism", British

minimalism is at odds with the views of other right-of-centre European parties. No wonder Tory pro-Europeans are increasingly worried. As important in raising Tory morale has been the counterattack on Labour over education, rail privatisation and the replacement of Clause Four. As Mr Blair admitted yesterday, his "honeymoon" was bound to end at some stage. There were always divisions within Labour, but they were obscured before Christmas by the much greater public differences within the Tory party.

These rows should not, however, be exaggerated. Rewriting Clause Four was never going to be a walk-over. But the opposition has so far been confined to predictable voices on

the hard Left. At present, a vacuum exists because no new statement of aims and objectives has been produced. That has allowed the opponents to organise, while supporters of change have been slow to mobilise.

Moreover, Mr Blair has yet to convince many Labour activists that he is in tune with their hearts as well as their heads. As he showed during his robust performance on the BBC's *On the Record* yesterday, New Labour is much more a marketing slogan. It is about whether Labour members and MPs fully recognise that the party has to change. As a symbol of this debate, the Blair's decision to send their son to a grant-maintained school has infuriated many activists who have been involved in local battles, often as parents and governors, against such opt-outs. It has fuelled doubts which he will seek to

answer in his nationwide campaign on Clause Four starting this week. My hunch remains that Mr Blair will win comfortably at the special party conference in three months' time. The real issue is about the wording of the new formula and linked policy debates. That is the main battle for the mainstream Left. Even Bill Morris of the Transport Workers accepts that the new clause should not name specific industries to be taken back into public ownership. That will be a separate battle, with Mr Blair resisting union calls to renationalise water and similar utilities. But the unions still control more than two-thirds of the conference votes, so for all the denial of deals, Labour leaders will not make controversial policy statements until after the Clause Four vote. That has been reflected in the ambiguous remarks about might happen to a privatised British Rail. Such confusion and vagueness in other areas has been fully exploited by the Tories.

Plenty of work still needs to be done, particularly on spending and taxes as well as on public services and constitutional reform. The debate over devolution, for example, has so far been mainly framed in Scottish terms, and until recently Labour spokesmen have not had to debate the implications for England. There is time for these defects to be corrected, but the party will soon have to start fleshing out its policies.

Labour still has to show what it would do in power. In that respect, the arguments since the new year have opened a necessary debate. But the Tories should not celebrate too soon. Their position remains weaker and more fragile. The opinion poll gap between the parties may narrow from the previous record levels. It would be extraordinary if it did not soon. But that may be less a turning point than a correction from an exceptional position. The crucial political period this year will be late April and early May, with the special Labour conference on Saturday, April 29 and the local elections the following Thursday. A double victory for Mr Blair, however predictable, could reopen all the Tory wounds.

## Taking Ambridge

NORMA MAJOR is to face up to her addition today. She is off to the 44th birthday party of *The Archers*, where she will finally meet the people behind the voices of her favourite programme. A devoted listener to the Radio 4 soap since childhood—she says her earliest memory is of listening to the programme at an aunt's house—she has never attended an official *Archers* event. The depth of her passion for Ambridge life emerged when the fan club *Archers Addicts* asked her to become its 10,000th member. She wrote back politely to say she had already joined. The records had her down simply as Mrs Major of Cambridgeshire. "It's the one programme I still try to listen to today," she has said. "The characters are so clearly defined."

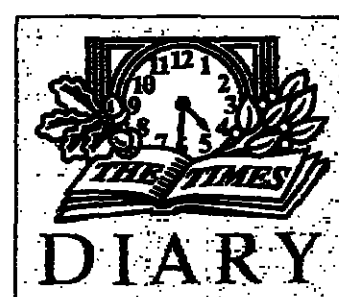
As guest of honour at the West London bash thrown by the BBC tonight, she will be able to expand at leisure on the subtleties of character with the actors themselves and the writers and producers of the show. "It will be nice to see her there."



●The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Newt Gingrich, has cleared all the pictures of former Democratic leaders out of his new study. My man on Capitol Hill found the room bare except for a portrait of Winston Churchill wiggling his finger above the message "Deserve victory".

### Too forward

MICHAEL HESELTINE has written the foreword to the new term card of Oxford University's Guild Society. The organisation used to be the industrial society but its role now seems a little unclear. "I am particularly encouraged by the efforts of the Guild Society to promote an understanding of business and commerce among Oxford students," writes the President of the Board of Trade, who goes on to tell his readers they are the key managers and professional staff of the future. Overleaf, an advert explains how the society is preparing its members for these roles. "Wealth, power, sex" screams the headline. The text reads: "Well, two out of three ain't [sic] bad. Oxford's biggest society invites you to join its committee [sic]. We can't offer you wealth, but the rest is yours to discover..."



Events for this term include "the famed debauchery of champagne and chocolates, which has been expanded and should be an even bigger orgy of over-indulgence". Ah.

### Prime sites

NERVOUS mothers concerned about the standard of student accommodation at Edinburgh University can put their fears to rest. The school in Edinburgh which inspired Muriel Spark to write *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* has been turned into plush accommodation for undergraduates. The former James Gillespie High School in Bruntsfield, where the novelist herself went to school, is said to be the model for the fictitious Marcia Blaine's School for

the crème de la crème of young ladies. After a £2 million revamp, some of the rooms are now so well appointed that the Scottish Tourist Board have awarded them three-crown status.

### Law unto all

LORD DENNING will celebrate his 96th birthday today with a quiet party for family and friends. But the day is being marked as far as the world is concerned. The Law Society of British Columbia was so taken with the former Master of the Rolls when he opened new law courts in Vancouver in 1979 that it has had a statue made of him in full wig and gown. "They wrote and asked me if they could do this. They thought it was a good way of marking my birthday," says Denning. "It is a bit bigger than life. I do appreciate it."

### Sweet suite

WHEN the exhaustingly energetic Anouska Hempel—designer, dressmaker, hotelier and wife of City mover-and-shaker Sir Mark Weinberg—comes to sell their house, the particulars will include



Pudding on a show: Anouska

"pudding room", along with the more mundane reception rooms. Halfway through dinner, she herds her guests out of the dining room into a dark-green, mirrored suite, where they are presented with up to 12 different puddings. "Who wants to go to a dinner party and stay at the same table, or even in the same room, all evening?" she says in next month's *House and Garden* magazine.

●From today, passengers paying £5,000 to cross the Atlantic on Concorde will be offered a new delicacy with their champagne and caviar. A Highlands Butcher, Grants of Dumfries, has been saved from receivership by a contract to supply British Airways with black pudding. Stuart Grant brought the first consignment down from Aberdeen this weekend in his hand luggage.

### Power glen

THE PRIME Perthshire estate of Glen Lyon has just come on the market at £2.5 million. The 6,235 acres, lying amid the spectacular scenery of Scotland's longest glen, offer more than just good hunting, shooting and fishing. The estate comes with its own hydro-electric power station. Electricity is provided for Glen Lyon House and several estate cottages. "Most people are interested in the river beats, deer-stalking and grouse shooting," says a local estate agent. "But there have been some getting very excited at the thought of having their own power station in the back yard."

P.H.S





## THE BLAIR MESSAGE

Tough on Clause Four, tough on the backers of Clause Four?

Tony Blair insisted in his BBC interview yesterday that his campaign to replace Clause Four of the Labour Party's constitution is a battle over more important issues than the party's policies on renationalising British Rail. So it is. The purpose of the campaign is to create a "new Labour" party in the voters' minds with an identifiable set of principles relevant to the needs of the electorate in the 1990s and beyond.

As Mr Blair put it, Labour will win the trust of voters as a potential government only by defining "what we are for, and not merely what we are against": to do this his party must have an "ideological compass". And that compass cannot possibly be Clause Four which establishes "common ownership" of all industry as the party's central objective. Even in the most impassioned debates between Labour's modernisers and reactionaries, few have suggested that Clause Four should be taken as a serious guide to action. The battle between the Left and the Right, ever since last year's party conference, has not been about whether they would actually want a Labour Government to nationalise all private property, but over whether an embarrassing and painful argument is really necessary about what Labour should stand for.

In demanding that Labour should abandon the double-talk of Clause Four and be explicit about its claims for a new identity and ideological conviction, Mr Blair's position is sound. The more the party's traditionalists rage against him, the more likely they are to make him look honest, decisive and progressive - provided, of course, that he defeats them in the end.

Unfortunately for Mr Blair, defeating the traditionalists will be only half the Clause Four battle. The much harder part of his task will be to replace Clause Four with a new Labour ideology that can appeal to modern Britain, and yet be identifiable as a

distinctive "left of centre" view. While Mr Blair and his allies may put great emphasis on their determination to create a positive new ideology for Labour, their attempts to articulate such a vision have been unconvincing.

Yesterday, for example, Mr Blair posed the correct rhetorical question: "What is the left of centre about?" But his answer left the nation none the wiser. He identified Labour's core beliefs as "social justice, partnership, co-operation and democracy". Such platitudinous generalities may seem a safe substitute for Clause Four's all too specific aspirations to universal public ownership but they fall flat as a means of defining the identity of the new Labour party and reassuring voters that the party really has changed.

A more distinctive and inspiring vision than this may, of course, be too much to expect. But if he cannot be clearer about the broad ideas that Labour now stands for, Mr Blair must not feign surprise if he is pinned down by the media, the Tories and even the Liberal Democrats about specific policy commitments. So far, he has managed to sidestep many controversies by saying, as he did yesterday, that his party is not in government and therefore cannot be expected to make detailed policy statements, whether on taxes and public spending, or on education and nationalised industries. But if victory in the Clause Four debate narrows the ideological distance between the main parties, it will only be on specific policies commitments and perceived competence that the electorate will be able to choose the next Government. To judge by Labour's recent disarray over rail, education and devolution, the need to make specific policy commitments which can simultaneously appeal to the nation and unite his party would yet prove an insuperable hurdle for Mr Blair.

## NEW RUSSIAN ARMY

Military reform may yet bring good from Grozny

Anxious to steady his grip on power in the wake of the debacle in Chechnya, President Yeltsin has sacked three senior generals who opposed the intervention. But behind the facade of Kremlin discipline, the Russian leader must know that the criticisms were right: bad planning, poor intelligence and strategic errors turned an exercise intended to bring the breakaway republic back within the control of the Russian Federation into a bloody and perilous campaign.

His likeliest course is to leave the dismissals of those who opposed the mission with that of Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister, who ran it. This would be useful, since General Grachev is unpopular in the armed forces and suspected of being close to military figures involved in corruption.

But sackings, too often Mr Yeltsin's response to troubles, are no substitute for military reform. The main problem is that the Russian Army continues to regard itself as the Soviet Army writ small. The general staff is obsessed by preparing for the high-tech, high-intensity conflicts it expected to fight during the Cold War. It is deeply distrustful of the 1993 military doctrine which pledged a switch from massive land forces, dominated by tanks, to flexible, lightly armed rapid-reaction forces capable of operating inside Russian territory.

Chechnya has shown that without tight central planning, the doctrine is unworkable. Even without a war, the Army's plight has been worsening in the last three years. The conscription system has collapsed, with the majority of the potential troops finding ways to exempt themselves from service. Of those who remain, half go into the well-manned Interior and Security Ministries

armed wings, leaving only 75,000 for all the other armed forces. The vast interior and security forces are an incongruous vestige of the Soviet Union and its repressive internal security policies; they would be obvious targets for change.

The Army needs to lose men, not by means of the current random loss of conscripts and deserters, but programmatically, to reduce the absurdly high ratio of officers to men. Such is the indifference of the institution to those who have served it that most of the funds put aside by the European Union for officer resettlement remain unclaimed.

The spectacle of Russia's forces in turmoil may appeal to some in the West who believe that this is a fitting postscript to decades of Soviet might. But that is a dangerous supposition - and not only because of the Western interest in securing predictable and reliable control of the nuclear arsenal.

The ethnically-varied Russian Federation needs a disciplined and confident military as a disincentive to irredentism and to allow the regions time and tranquillity to evolve mutually satisfactory relations with the centre. Russian culture attaches great respect to soldiers. Watching the defenders of the Motherland dwindle into brigands without common purpose or loyalty is deeply dispiriting to the population at large.

Perhaps the humiliations meted out to Russian troops in Chechnya will prompt President Yeltsin to follow the Tsar's example after the drawn-out Caucasian campaign of the last century, and instigate lasting changes in the way the Army is run. Some positive good, at least, could then arise from under the ruins of Grozny.

## SIR ROBIN BOWS OUT

Diplomacy in Washington enters a difficult phase

A good ambassador knows how to exploit the warmth of close relations when diplomatic ties are close, and how to protect his country's interests when relationships are under strain. Sir Robin Renwick, soon to retire as British Ambassador to Washington, has done both. His premature departure will bring surprise to some. The offers made to top ambassadors as they near the end of their term are tempting and lucrative, but his leaving in no way reflects on his remarkable achievement in both good times and bad. He is to be succeeded by Sir John Kerr, a man whose celebrated patience will be sorely needed. The outlook for Anglo-American relations is squally.

Sir Robin arrived in Washington at a time when the long Reagan-Thatcher honeymoon had ended. It was a time of reassessment by the Bush Administration: of its European priorities, of America's world role and of the relationship with Britain that many thought was playing a disproportionate role in the formulation of American policy. There were strong moves, clearly articulated by James Baker, to focus on Germany as the new lynchpin of the transatlantic relationship. Sir Robin's achievement was in accepting with good grace this reassessment, and in ensuring that it never, in fact, came about.

Throughout the Bush Administration, Britain retained its extraordinary access to the decision-makers both in the White House and on Capitol Hill. Other leading European allies were also consulted, but none had an input into policy formulation at

such an early stage. Britain's close military and intelligence links obviously helped. So too did the British embassy. Sir Robin's diplomatic time in Washington matched the reputation that he brought with him from South Africa: exhaustive, relentless, reliable and, above all, discreet.

The election of President Clinton made everything more difficult. Not only had the affinity between the Conservative and Republican parties disappeared; the new Administration paid more attention to its American-Irish voters that its Establishment Anglophiles. It was determined to look afresh at Bosnia and was suspicious of the old links. Sir Robin saw some of the most difficult months in Anglo-American relations for decades: the disagreement over the Bosnian arms embargo, the first visa for Gerry Adams and the perplexity in London over Mr Clinton's foreign policy.

These strains will not go away. Indeed, the latest congressional elections are likely to increase them. In particular the ascendancy of Jesse Helms, one of the few senators who can fairly be described as an Anglophobe, in the Foreign Relations Committee means that British diplomacy will have to contend not only with a President often unable to deliver policies, but a Congress where neo-isolationism, protectionism and a deep suspicion of the European allies will always be close to the surface. In Brussels Sir John Kerr needed all his guile and patience. The divided Washington of Clinton and Helms will test those qualities even further.

## Poor prospects for women's pensions

From the Director of the Fawcett Society and others

Sir, The Pensions Bill, which is due to get its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Tuesday, was intended by the Government to give equal treatment to men and women. The reality ("Pension measure 'no help'", *Business News*, January 17) is that the proposed equalisation of the pension age at 65 will take £5 billion a year from women. Rather than this money being used to compensate women and improve their pensions, as proposed by the Social Security Advisory Committee, it will go to the Treasury.

Women are more reliant on the basic state pension than men are because their lower earnings and different patterns of work make it harder for them to build up other sources of pension. Because the care of children and of disabled people as well as elder care in the home fall mainly on women they frequently have to move from full-time work into lower paid part-time work or give up employment for a time. In 1974, 15 per cent of employed people were part-time women workers; by 1994 the figure had risen to 23 per cent.

As a result only around 16 per cent of women retire with a full state pension. Their lower wages mean that currently 2.25 million earn too little to pay National Insurance contributions towards their basic state pensions, much less enough to contribute towards occupational or private pension schemes. Only 20 per cent of women have occupational pensions, compared to 66 per cent of men.

Currently, women can defer drawing their pensions until after the age of 60, which can increase their pension by up to 37.5 per cent. With equalisation at 65 this will no longer be an option. However, both men and women will have problems in finding and retaining employment after 60: in 1993, 43 per cent of men and 68 per cent of women previously in employment had already retired - voluntarily or otherwise - by that age.

The current system is based on the assumption that most women will marry and be dependent on their male partners, but this is increasingly not always the case. Many more women are now going out to work. Divorce rates are rising and in many cases the husband's pension may not be taken fully into account in the settlement. Older married women are often left in dire need and dependent on social security when their pensioner partners go into long-term residential care as they may lose access to their husbands' pension, which can be used by the local authority to offset the cost of care.

On present trends, two out of three women retiring after 2030 will have an income on the margins of poverty. We want to see the Pensions Bill strengthened to take into account the changing patterns of women's working lives and domestic roles and their more limited access to independent occupational and private pensions.

Yours truly,  
SHELAGH DIPLOCK (Director, The Fawcett Society),  
KAMEL BAHIL (Chair, Equal Opportunities Commission),  
SALLY GREENGROSS (Director General, Age Concern England),  
NORMA HUDDY (President, Business & Professional Women (UK) Ltd),  
JACK JONES (President, National Pensioners Convention),  
JOHN MONKS (General Secretary, TUC),  
JILL PITKEATHLEY (Director, Careers National Association),  
ELIZABETH SOUTHEY (National Chairman, National Federation of Women's Institutes),  
The Fawcett Society,  
40-46 Harleyford Road,  
Vauxhall, SE11,  
January 20.

## Singapore's rebuttal

From the High Commissioner for the Republic of Singapore

Sir, In his article, "Singapore opens debate on dissent in a nanny state" (January 12), Christopher Thomas describes Singapore as the ultimate nanny state where the people are treated "rather like errand children". Can naming Singapore workers produce a world-competitive airline like SIA? Bert (Business Environment Risk Intelligence), a US organisation, ranks the Singapore workforce in 1994 as the number one in the world.

The Geneva World Economic Forum competitiveness report, 1994, ranks Singapore as the second most competitive economy after the USA. Has the Singapore Government been wrong to get Singaporeans to achieve standards of excellence that have made Singapore competitive internationally?

Christopher Thomas said many Singaporeans are weary of the Government's "hectoring, patronizing and pervasive presence in their lives". Eight times in the last 36 years, at four to six-yearly intervals, Singaporeans could, in free and fair elections, have changed their government. They chose to re-elect it. Could not this be one reason why Singapore has moved from "squallor to become a world economic power in three decades"?

Yours sincerely,  
ABDUL AZIZ MAHMOOD,  
Singapore High Commission,  
9 Wilton Crescent, SW1.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## Pitfalls in mental health legislation

From the Registrar of the Royal College of Psychiatrists

Sir, I congratulate you on your balanced reporting (January 17) of the tragic incident at the Edith Morgan unit and Sir Louis Blom-Cooper on producing an excellent inquiry report.

As a former chairman of the Mental Health Act Commission, Sir Louis is in an excellent position to know the difficulties in interpreting the current Mental Health Act. There is indeed a need for a review of its detailed workings.

For instance, there are only two criteria (health or safety) for compulsory admission to a mental hospital and this covers three separate conditions: mental illness, psychopathic disorder, and learning disabilities. Thus there is ample scope for confusion and multiple interpretations.

Psychiatrists are criticised on the one hand for using the Act too much and on the other for using it too little. In an individual case the psychiatrist must not only be persuaded himself of the necessity for admission but must also persuade the patient's relatives, a social worker, and a second doctor (sometimes a general practitioner).

In difficult questions, such as that posed by Andrew Robinson, there is very likely to be disagreement. Even when there is agreement between the clinicians the decision can subsequently be challenged, first of all by managers of the hospital to which the patient has been admitted, and secondly by a mental health review tribunal, whose workings have been criticised by the Blom-Cooper report.

Yours etc,  
C. THOMPSON, Registrar,  
The Royal College of Psychiatrists,  
17 Belgrave Square, SW1,  
January 17.

## Unofficial medals

From Mr Peter Girling

Sir, Brigadier Stuart Ryder (letter, January 17) is quite within his rights to dislike unofficial commemorative medals, but he is not entitled to imply that any old Tom, Dick or Harry can purchase them.

The Royal British Legion has supported the issue of the National Service medal struck by a company of impeccable reputation, with a strict condition that its purchase is restricted to National Service men and women, including those called up during the war, and their next of kin. Since 1992 the sale of this medal has raised some £140,000 for the British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Five other commemorative medals struck by the same company are for members of Bomber Command, prisoners of war, those who served on the Arctic convoys and in Normandy and

From Professor Peter Huxley

Sir, There seems little point in advocating legislation to mandate community treatment for mentally ill people when there are so many inadequacies in the existing community services. Government policy has had an adverse impact on the provision of social care made by local authorities in several ways:

1. The generally inadequate resources which reach social services departments for this client group.
2. The diversion of resources and attention away from direct work with mentally ill people towards assessment and eligibility determination for elderly people.
3. The overall reduction in the numbers of social work training places in work with severely mentally ill people.
4. The overall reduction in the standards required for social work with mentally ill people: for instance, most social workers are not taught psychiatry by psychiatrists, and most do not gain practice experience in work with mentally ill people during their basic training.
5. The enormous variation from one area to another in the availability of social workers approved to act under the 1983 Act.

An official review of training and community care provision for people with severe mental illness would be preferable to a new piece of legislation.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER HUXLEY,  
School of Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences,  
Mathematics Building,  
University of Manchester,  
Manchester M13,  
January 18.

a 50th anniversary Peace medal issued in conjunction with the British Red Cross.

I hardly see how the wearing of such medals can devalue official medals, when one bears in mind that the minimum criterion for the 1939-45 War Medal was 28 days non-operational service. Provided that these commemorative medals are worn, as they should be, either on the right lapel or below official medals, they cannot be confused with the latter.

As a National Serviceman and a holder of the Naval General Service medal with bar, "Near East", all I am saying by wearing my NS medal below my NGS medal is that I served my National Service and am proud of it!

Yours etc,  
PETER GIRLING,  
11 Bateman Mews,  
Cambridge,  
January 17.

and might have moments of intensive action, but the pilot, as captain of the aircraft, and the navigator, carried the main responsibility for the success or failure of the attack.

They had undertaken a longer, more demanding training, were usually commissioned, and more was expected of them; they were also more likely to receive an end-of-tour award.

Immediate awards, for outstanding feats of skill or bravery, were another matter, and every crew member had an equal chance of one of those.

Yours faithfully,  
JACK CURRIE,  
Westfield, Thirsk Road,  
Easingwold, Yorkshire,  
January 18.

## Ambulance report

From Mr Alan Meyer

Sir, Mr William Wells's letter of January 17 is quite silent on the main point of my letter (January 7) to which it responds. Since I wrote, notwithstanding the earlier explicit inquiry team warning and the damning report published last week (details, January 18), the Health Secretary has permitted the accident department at Barts to close. No new patients will be admitted after January 27.

Surely, a responsible and caring Health Secretary would have halted temporarily that closure, at least until she was certain that day in, day out, a revived and improved London Ambulance Service was at long last providing the statutory service "to meet all reasonable needs".

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN MEYER (Legal Adviser,  
Westminster Hospitals  
Development Fund),  
Halsey Meyer Higgins (solicitors),  
10 Carteret Street,  
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,  
January 17.

## Cold comfort

From Mr Merrick Baker-Bates

Sir, I doubt whether those Japanese tourists in white masks (photograph, January 17) were making "an eloquent point" about London's air quality as your caption said.

The Japanese wear masks when they have a cold to try to ensure that others do not catch their germs, as these two were surely doing.

Yours faithfully,  
MERRICK BAKER-BATES,  
450 South June Street,  
Los Angeles, California 90020, USA.

## Stress factors for working parents

From Mrs Shoshana Appleton

Sir, My heart goes out to Ginny Dougary and millions of women today trying to juggle a job and a family ("My second working family", Weekend, January 14).

In the last ten years we have seen more and more graduates and more and more women wanting to enter an ever-shrinking job market. There is something very wrong with a society where half its people are dying to work while the other half are dying from overwork.

What about job sharing, by both parents, at home and at work? Both could happily go out to work half the day, while spending the other half at home, better for them, their health and that of their children.

Job sharing must be the answer to half our overworked, overstressed population, while the other half are on the loose, with no jobs, no prospects and no money. The overall economy of the country would benefit, apart from the workplace gaining two fresh minds instead of one tired out one.

Let's have more jobs for more people, share our prime time equally between home, work and leisure, and gain a better balance in our lives, so we can live now and not wait till we retire.

Yours etc,  
SHOSHANA APPLETON,  
Loughry,  
Hele's Bay, Co Down.

From Mrs S. May

Sir, I agree Ginny Dougary feels compelled to pursue prestige and money via her career then that is her choice. She says she feels "extremely fortunate" to be working from home, then proceeds to bleat on about the long hours she works and the necessity of employing an army of helpers to keep her family life running. If she truly attaches importance to parenthood then perhaps she should re-examine her priorities.

Staying at home and not working does not automatically equal "endless domesticity". Ms. Dougary's statement that it would drive her and her friends round the bend only serves to reinforce the pressure on women to be active (or hyperactive) in every area of their lives all at once. Such an attitude is a sad reflection on our society.

Yours faithfully,  
S. MAY,  
84 Bankside Crescent, Streety,  
Sumner Coldfield, West Midlands,  
January 16.

From Mrs Kathryn Gynge

Sir, I gave up my career to become a full-time mother because the anguish of being separated from my then one-year-old baby became too much. Of course the decision was made easier by the security of my husband's income and I am eternally grateful that financial pressure has not forced me back to work before I am ready. But I have never spoken with "high moral authority" as Ginny Dougary alleges.

The last decade has seen official encouragement for mothers to return to the labour force. But at what price? Full time mothers are treated as second class citizens, not least by their career-minded colleagues. And as Dougary so cogently describes, working parenthood is a fragile house of cards.

Children deserve more. One answer to the problem is to restructure the fiscal and benefits system to make the one-breadwinner family viable during those crucial child-rearing years.

Yours sincerely,  
KATHRYN GYNGE,  
85 Wallaroy Road, Woolahra,  
New South Wales 2025, Australia,  
January 18.

## India's population

From Mr Nigel Crook

Sir, It is not true to say that India has "no official family planning programme" (report, January 6). India was among the first of the developing countries of Asia and Africa to institute one in 1952, and has maintained it ever since.

The birthrate, which is a good indicator of future growth, has declined by about 30 per cent since the 1960s; in some areas, such as the large southern state of Tamil Nadu (population 56 million), fertility close to replacement levels has been reached (about two children per couple). There is cause neither for complacency nor pessimism.

Yours faithfully,  
NIGEL CROOK,  
School of Oriental and African Studies,  
Department of Economics,  
Thornhaugh Street, WC1,  
January 12.

## Birthright?

From Mr and Mrs Charles Parker

Sir, I see (News in Brief, January 18) that a couple who named their child Remy Martin have been sent a £100 bottle of the brandy by the distillers. With this in mind we intend to name any future child of ours Ferrari Testarossa.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES PARKER,  
SANDY PARKER,  
1 All That Cottages,  
Victoria Road, Windmill Hill,  
Nr Hailsham, East Sussex.





## COURT CIRCULAR

**SANDRINGHAM**  
January 22: Divine Service was held in Fitcham Parish Church this morning.  
The Bishop of Hereford preached the sermon.  
**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
January 21: The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence RN, attended the International Match between Scotland and Canada at Murrayfield, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Norman Irons, the Right Hon the Lord Provost).

## Birthdays today

Mrs Justice Arden, 48; Mr Peter Alderton, former Governor, Long Lartin Prison, 48; Professor Alastair Compston, neurologist, 47; Mr A.M. Davis, rugby player, 53; Lord Denning, 96; Mr Ian Dodgson, racehorse trainer, 50; Air Marshal Sir Barry Duxbury, 61; Professor D.F. Duxbury, 61; Sir John Grenside, chartered accountant, 74; Brigadier D.D.G. Hardie, Lord Lieutenant of Strathclyde Region, 59; Mr Roger Hauer, actor, 58; Mr William Hayden, Governor-General of Australia, 62; Sir James Lighthill, former provost, University College London, 71; Miss Jeanne Moreau, actress, 67; Dr Christine Nicholls, editor, *Dictionary of National Biography*, 52; Brigadier Kenneth Page, 97; Mr Bob Paisley, former football manager, 76; Mr Rupert Penman-Rea, Deputy Governor, Bank of England, 47; Sir Allick Rankin, chairman, Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, 68; Mr Edward Rowlands, MP, 55; Sir Kenneth Scott, Deputy Private Secretary to the Queen, 64; Lord Strathcarron, 71; Lord Sutherland, 63; Miss Joan Walley, MP, 46; Mr Brian Wright, chief constable, Dorset, 59.

## Today's royal engagement

Princess Alexandra will visit the Royal Star and Garter Home at Richmond at 11.00.

## St Simon Zelotes

On St Valentine's Day, February 14, a special service will be held at 6.30 at St Simon Zelotes, Chelsea, for all who were married or who have had their marriage blessed at the church. The service will be in the form of thanksgiving and renewal of marriage vows. A party will be held afterwards.

## Margaret Bowden

A memorial service for Miss Margaret Bowden, former Headmistress of Francis Holland School, Graham Terrace, will be held on Friday, February 17, at 11am in St Mary's, Bourne Street.

## Nature notes

On winter nights, tree-toes often roost in the soft bark of wellingtonia trees. They dig a little hollow in the shape of an egg-cup, sit inside it, and fluff out their feathers all round them. In daytime they hunt for insect eggs on tree-trunks, working their way up one tree, then flying down to the base of another and starting again.

Nuthatches also hold on to tree-trunks to feed, and can even walk along the underside of a bough. They are noisier than the whispering tree-toes, but they have a distinctive whistling note like a stone skimming over the ice on a frozen pond. Rooks are sitting round their old nests in the rookeries on mild mornings, but they have not yet begun to repair them for the coming season. They can fly as well as sit there. On hazel trees, the

catkins are growing longer and yellow. These catkins are the male flowers. The female flowers are like tiny red stars and are just beginning to open.  
On common sallow and great sallow bushes, some of the silvery male catkins have burst out of their buds: they are like small furry paws ranged all along the twigs.  
DJM

## Anniversaries

**BIRTHS:** Philipp Jakob Spener, theologian and founder of Pietism, Rappoltswiller, Alsace, 1635; Stendhal (Marie Henri Beyle) novelist, Grenoble, 1783.  
Edouard Manet, painter, Paris, 1832; Edith Wharton, novelist, New York, 1892; Subhas Chandra Bose, Indian nationalist, Cuttack, Orissa, 1897; Sergei Eisenstein, film director, Riga, Russia, 1898.  
**DEATHS:** William Baffin, navigator, Persian Gulf, 1622; William Caslon the Elder, type founder, London, 1766; William Pitt the Younger, Prime Minister 1783-1801 and 1804-06, London, 1806; John Field, composer, Moscow, 1837; Sir Francis Burdett, politician, London, 1844.

Julius Charles Hare, clergyman and scholar, Hurstmonceux, 1855; Thomas Love Peacock, novelist, Lower Hailford, Middlesex, 1866; Charles Kingsley, writer, London, 1875; Gustave Doré, illustrator, Paris, 1883.  
Eugene Labiche, dramatist, Paris, 1888; Anna Pavlova, prima ballerina, The Hague, 1931; Dame Clara Butt, australo, North Stoke, Oxfordshire, 1936.  
Edvard Munch, painter, Oslo, 1944; Pierre Bonnard, painter, Le Cannet, France, 1947; Sir Alexander Korda, film producer, London, 1956.

Paul Robeson, singer and actor, Philadelphia, 1966; Samuel Barber, composer, New York, 1981; Salvador Dalí, painter, Figueras, Spain, 1989.  
Fletcher Christian and *The Bounty* mutineers landed on Pitcairn Island, 1790.  
Ramsay MacDonald formed the first Labour Government, 1924.

The proceedings of the House of Lords were televised for the first time, 1985.

## The Royal Institute of International Affairs

The meeting which was to have been addressed by the Polish Foreign Minister, Andrzej Olechowski, at 5.30pm on Tuesday, January 24, 1995, has been cancelled.



Horse-drawn buses in the Strand, 1900; below, Tom Hassell, of the historic monuments commission, sifts the treasures

## Views recaptured of lost London

**RARE** photographs of London streets and buildings destroyed by time, war or redevelopment are once again available to the public.  
A newly opened search room at the National Monuments Record means visitors will be able to view prints that include the only known pictures of many London

churches that have disappeared. They can also consult a reference library containing 1500 titles on architecture and the capital's history.  
Visitors to the search room, in Blandford Street, central London, will have access to the National Monuments Record Centre in Swindon, Wiltshire.



## Schools

Loughborough Grammar School 1995 is the 500th anniversary of the founding of Loughborough Grammar School. The Bishop of London will preach at the Bampton Service in St Paul's Cathedral at 11.15am on Thursday, March 30. A celebration concert will take place in the Royal Concert Hall on Saturday, March 18. The CCF will be inspected by Air Vice-Marshal A.J. Stables, Air Officer Commanding the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell, on Saturday, May 13. The Old Loughburiens' Quinquennial Reunion will take place at the school over the weekend of July 1-2 culminating in a performance of *Carmen* in the school hall, with fireworks, by the choir and performing arts symphony orchestra. A ball will be held at the school on July 8. During the summer the 1st and 2nd Rugby Teams will undertake a world tour and an expedition will be made to rescue food and supplies in Hushie, the highest village in Baltistan, and climb Gendro Peak. For details of these and other events contact the School on 01509 232323. Loughborough Grammar School is a registered charity which exists to educate boys.

**West Hill Park School**  
Today is the 25th Anniversary of the foundation of West Hill Park School by Mr Charles A. Ransome. There will be a celebration ball on June 17 and a dinner for the Old Boys and Girls Association later in the year. Anyone wishing to attend either event please contact E.P.K. Hudson, the Headmaster.

**Tower House School**  
John Townsend is retiring after 30 years at Tower House School, East Sheen, SW14. Would any old boys or parents who would like to be remembered to him, please write to: Friends of Tower House, 6 Sheen Common Drive, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 5BN.

## Airport terminal is model of stress-free travelling

By MARCUS BINNEY

THE elegant new terminal at Southampton Airport opens a new era in value for money architecture. At 56.5 million, its cost - square foot for square foot - is half that of any other passenger facility erected by the British Airports Authority.

The terminal's good looks come from its swooping silhouette and sleek silvered aluminium cladding. The architect is Michael Manser, former president of Riba. He says: "It's basically a Dutch barn with two lean-tos. The

swept-up roofs are created by bending standard steel beams. We've avoided the need for any rain water gutters taking the rain down through the dip in the roof." The previous terminal at Southampton, a former Spitfire works, was much prized by regular passengers for its convenience - easy check-in, short walking distances, plentiful cheap car parking and a railway station no more than 50 yards away. All those features are preserved in the new terminal a model in stress-free travel.

"By using large roof lights, we have ensured that the air

terminal can be run without electric lighting for most of the year," Mr Manser said. "Our brief was to build something that was extremely economical but looked special. The only way to get low cost, good looks is by careful design."

Until recently, 90 per cent of flights from Southampton were to the Channel Islands, but now the airport is establishing regular daily flights to about 20 destinations in Britain and continental Europe making it an attractive alternative for business travellers in Hampshire and along the South Coast.

## Appointments in the Forces

**Royal Navy and Royal Marines**  
COMMODORE J. Band to HMS Ganges in CMA, 8/4/95; B. W. Bryant to HMS Endeavour in CMA, 4/7/95; D. J. Dyer to HMS Endeavour, 1/7/95; M. J. Harries to MOD London, 2/7/95; D. A. H. Smith to Sultan AIR, 21/7/95; D. G. Snelson to Ministry of Defence, 1/7/95; S. H. Williams to MOD London, 4/7/95.

**ROYAL AIR FORCE**  
Air Vice-Marshal C. G. Terry to be Chief of Staff at Headquarters Logistics Command in succession to Air Marshal Sir John Willis, February 24.

**ROYAL ARMY**  
Major M. V. Cooke to COMAW MOD London, 4/4/95.

**Retirements**  
COMMANDER: S. J. Pether, 21/7/95; H. A. Powell, 2/4/95; A. Preece, 5/4/95.

## Church news

**Appointments**  
The Rev Lesley Bentley, Curate, St Luke, Barnworth, to be Vicar, St Philip, Westbrook (Liverpool).  
The Rev Neville Brook, Vicar, Great Staughton, to be Chaplain to the Mothers' Union (Ripon).  
The Rev Derrick Cooing, Vicar, St David's, Betws, Gwent (Monmouth), to be priest-in-charge, Purleigh and Cold Norton w Stow Maries (Chelmsford).

The Rev Andrew Furlong, previously Rector, Melksham, and honorary canon of Hereford Cathedral (Hereford, Wiltshire), to be Assistant Chaplain, Leeds General Infirmary (Ripon).  
Canon Dr Robin Greenwood, Diocesan Missionary and director of lay training, diocese of Gloucester, to be Ministry Development Officer diocese of Chelmsford.

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## Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.J. Evans and Miss N.J. Wheeler

The engagement is announced between David John, son of Mr and Mrs John Evans, of Longdon Green, Staffordshire, and Nicholas Jane, daughter of the late Mr John Wheeler and of Mrs Wheeler, of Lichfield, Staffordshire.

Mr L.J. Fitzpatrick and Miss P.C. MacGeorge

The engagement is announced between Ian, youngest son of Mr and Mrs W. Fitzpatrick, of Hove, East Sussex, and Philippa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P.B. MacGeorge, of Milland, Hampshire.

Mr M.C. Johns and Miss E. H. Saffron Vasey

The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of the late Commander Simon Johns, RN, and of Mrs Simon Johns, and Saffron, elder daughter of Lord Vasey and Kathryn, Lady Vasey.

Count Umberto Pasquelli d'Onde and Miss R.M.B. Portman

The engagement is announced between Umberto, son of Count Pasquelli d'Onde and Contessa Visconti di Modrone, of Rome, and Rachel, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Berkeley Portman, of Lyndhurst, West Sussex. The marriage will take place in Italy in June.

Mr H.W.T. Pepper and Miss E.B. Walker

The engagement is announced between Harry, second son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Pepper, of Stissingham, Kent, and Kathryn, youngest daughter of the late Mr and Mrs S.C. Walker and of Mrs Patricia Walker, of Epton, North Yorkshire.

Mr S.K. Post and Miss L. Ignatieff

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr E.W. Post and Mrs L.A. Post, of Chichester, Dorsetshire, and Lavinia, daughter of Count and Countess Paul Ignatieff, of Moscow, Dumfriesshire.

Mr C.J.G. Maffins and Miss G.N. Geddes

The engagement is announced between Charles, only son of Mrs Jennifer Maffins, of St Martin, Jersey, Channel Islands, and Georgina, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Gardner, of Lilley, Newbury, Berkshire.

Mr A.M. Littlefield and Miss E. Bradley

The engagement is announced, and the marriage will take place shortly, between Antony Littlefield, of Hampstead, London, and Elaine Bradley, of St. Helen-on-Thames, Oxon.

Mr N.C. Smith and Miss E.W. Lewis

The engagement is announced, from Switzerland, between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher John Smith, of Eastbourne, East Sussex, and Beverly, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Whitson Lewis, of Hurst Green, Kent.

Mr H.G. Williams and Miss E.P. Wiser

The engagement is announced between Hamish, second son of the late Francis Williams and of Miss Francis Williams, of Denbury, Essex, and Elizabeth, third daughter of the late Dipl Ing Thomas Wiser, and of Dr Elizabeth Wiser, of Vienna.

## Latest wills

The film star Peter Cushing left estate valued at £282,163 gross, £26,302 net.

Probate was granted to Joyce and Bernard Cushing, of Hove, Sussex, who looked after his wife, Helen, died in 1971.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):  
John Ayres, of Horton Kirby, Kent, £844,270

Mr Alan Cadbury, of Leobury, Herefordshire, £1,555,294

Mr Richard Douglas Castle, of Epping, Essex, £549,779

Mr Graham Robin Clark, of Cranborne, Dorset, £596,271

Mr John Day, of Cuddesheugh, Suffolk, £798,438

Rosebella Day, of Cuddesheugh, Suffolk, sister of the above, £14,866

Mrs Mary England, of Sheffield, £595,407

Mr Donald Gibson, of Beverley, Humberside, £850,965

Mr Leslie Osborne Hart, of Sutton, south London, £822,916

Mr Ernest Romilly Mansfield, of Ashby de la Zouche, Leics, £286,733

Mr John McElroy, of Walsingham, Norfolk, £1,049,586

Kathleen Margaret Sylvia Manser, of Aberfeldy, Perth, £1,723,373

Pamela Fitzgerald Roddie, of Hindhead, Surrey, £516,998

Mr Frederick Roger Bentley, of Huddersfield, £865,997

Mr Frederick Richard Bird, of Ingateside, Essex, £1,091,889

Mr Peter Walker Burke, of Bolinas, Essex, £1,730,318

Mr Joseph Henry Dwyer, of Bodelyke, Essex, £700,327

Mr David John Duffield, of Worthing, West Sussex, £593,222

Mrs Lanny Harris, of Chislehurst, Somerset, £516,009

Mr Alan Charles Heald, of Weymouth, Dorset, £586,730

Mr Kenneth Jenkins, of Didsley, Cheshire, £705,779

Mr John Thompson, of High Heston, Cheshire, £598,918

Mr Thomas Woodward, of Wokingham, Northamptonshire, £770,022

Miss Adela Rachel Lecky-Widger, of Ambleside, Cumbria, £1,766,429

Mr Richard Forsyth Allen, of Bath, Avon, £523,006

## American view of Thames reappears

By JOHN SHAW

A PAINTING showing the view of the Thames from Twickenham Hill, a study lost to time, is expected to make over £400,000 at auction.  
It was the work of Jasper Francis Cropsey (1829-1900) and last appeared on the market in 1963. Since then its whereabouts have been a mystery. The painting now returns as the property of an unidentified English institution to whom it was left in the late 1960s. It will be sold by Bonhams on March 16.

Its reappearance is a significant discovery for 19th-century American art. Cropsey was a leading figure in the Hudson River School, a group of landscape artists who specialised in often idealised and romantic visions of the American scene. He was born on Staten Island and studied painting while serving an architectural apprenticeship in New York. Cropsey made two trips to Europe in 1864 and 1865. The second lasted seven years. He set up a studio at 2 Kensington Gate where he became friendly with Ruskin and others.

He was persuaded to Queen Victoria and was the American Commissioner for the London Exposition in 1862. It was the year he painted the Twickenham study, a large panoramic view looking down the hill to the Thames. The vanishing point is just below the Star and Garter Inn, a favourite place for smart dinner parties in the 19th century.

TRADE: 071 481 1982  
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

## PERSONAL COLUMN

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**BIRTHS**

**BYGOTT-WISE** - On 15th January 1995 to the wife of Mr and Mrs John Bygott-Wise, a son, Arthur John.

**GOODALL** - On 20th January 1995 to the wife of Mr and Mrs John Goodall, a son, Henry John.

**HARRISON** - On 20th January 1995 to the wife of Mr and Mrs John Harrison, a son, John.

**SPAIN** - On 20th January 1995 to the wife of Mr and Mrs John Spain, a son, John.

**STEVENSON** - On 20th January 1995 to the wife of Mr and Mrs John Stevenson, a son, John.

**DEATHS**

**BOURNE** - On 20th January 1995 to the wife of Mr and Mrs John Bourne, a son, John.

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**CRITCHFIELD** - On



## OBITUARIES

## LORD NELSON OF STAFFORD

Lord Nelson of Stafford, a former director of the General Electric Company and its chairman, 1968-83, died on January 19 aged 78. He was born on January 2, 1917.

THE son of the first Baron Nelson of Stafford, who himself had been chairman of the English Electric Company, George Nelson was a lifelong dedicated engineer and a humble unsung hero of British industry. He played a particularly notable part in the development of civil nuclear power and had an unusually broad experience of an industry whose prosperity depends on its ability to keep pace with technological advance and scientific development.

Succeeded at his own invitation by Lord Carrington as chairman of GEC in 1983, Lord Nelson had by then worked for the company — or one of its component parts — for 44 years. He joined the English Electric Company, which merged with Arnold Weinstock's General Electric Company in 1968, as superintendent of its Preston works in 1939. Over 3,000 Halifax and Hampden bombers had been produced there by the end of the Second World War and the experience he thereby acquired gave him a lasting interest in the military aviation field.

He was for 17 years joint deputy chairman of the British Aircraft Corporation and earlier had put together the team which produced the record-breaking Canberra bomber and the supersonic all-weather Lightning fighter. But he never allowed any special interests to affect his attachment to the



more conventional products of the engineering industry.

A trained engineer by profession, Henry George Nelson was educated at Oundle School and at King's College, Cambridge, where he won an exhibition and took his degree in the Mechanical Sciences Tripos. Two years then followed in which he gained practical engineering experience both in France and Switzerland and afterwards at home in Britain.

He first became a director of one of English Electric's subsidiary companies when he was 25 years old and by the age of 40 was managing director on the main board.

But his reputation went well beyond the group of companies which came ultimately under his father's direction.

He played a full part in the industry as a whole, enjoying the unusual distinction of being a member of the three engineering institutions — electrical, mechanical and civil.

He served for many years on the Engineering and Allied Employers National Federation (later the Engineering Employers' Federation).

He always prided himself on taking a national view and by no means confined his interests to those of his own industry. He was a director of the Bank of England for more than 25 years, 1961-87, and served for five years on the selection and interview boards for entry into the administrative grade of the Civil Service, 1936-61. He also led the campaign in the 1960s to raise funds for the country's first business and management schools. He was particularly proud of his association with Aston University, of which he became Chancellor in 1966 serving until 1979.

It was perhaps his misfortune to have to live the earlier part of his life rather under the shadow of his father, who had been created a baronet in 1955 before being raised to the peerage in 1960. The first Lord Nelson had rescued English Electric from bankruptcy after the First World War and he continued very much in harness until his death at the age of 75 in 1962. This may conceivably have had something to do with his son's pursuit of such wide-ranging outside interests.

His involvement with English Electric meant, however, a great deal to him and it was partly at his insistence that, when the merger first took place

in 1968, the name of the new joint firm should have been for two years or so General Electric & English Electric Companies. In the boardroom, however, he was the easiest of colleagues — with only a slight inclination to pedantry provoking occasional irritation.

He may never have possessed the flair of the genuine born entrepreneur but his modesty, conscientiousness and dedication to whatever he saw as his duty ensured him respect in all the companies that he served.

It was a tribute to these qualities that he was persuaded to stay on the GEC main board for four years even after he had retired as chairman. As a director he was to see two former Conservative ex-Cabinet ministers — Lords Carrington and Prior — assume his place at the centre of the boardroom table. The relationship with Lord Weinstock — which might have been predicted not to be the easiest one — in fact worked out very well and it was only the growing international dimensions of GEC that led to a different sort of chairman's appointment being made once Lord Nelson had offered to retire at the age of 66. By then he had served as chairman of GEC for nearly 15 years, having been both chairman and chief executive of English Electric for the six years before that.

He married in 1940 Pamela Bird, the daughter of a former Conservative MP for Skipton. She survives him together with their two daughters and two sons. The elder of the latter, Henry Nelson, now inherits both the baronetcy and the peerage.

## ENID LAKEMAN

Enid Lakeman, OBE, director of the Electoral Reform Society, 1960-79, died on January 7 aged 91. She was born on November 28, 1903.



AS A Liberal candidate at four postwar general elections, Enid Lakeman experienced her fair share of disappointments under the "first past the post" voting system. But while there have always been obvious reasons why any Liberal should support the single transferable vote (STV) system of proportional representation, Enid Lakeman did far more than that. She, in effect, appointed herself its evangelist.

It was a role in life that she came to comparatively late. She was over 40 when she joined the staff of what was then known as the Proportional Representation Society in 1945. And she was nearing the normal retirement age when she became director of the Electoral Reform Society, as it had been renamed, in 1960. She stayed in the post for the next 19 years.

Although she tended to intimidate pundits and reporters, she successfully influenced a number of working politicians. When the Labour Government was in power she made some headway with bringing Tories round to her point of view; and in more recent years she was even more successful with Labour MPs during their long years of exile on the Opposition benches. The trouble, though, until now has always been that enthusiasm for reform in either major party lasts only as long as that party does badly at the polls; the moment its fortunes revive, the less attractive does any change in the voting system come to seem.

Lakeman never really broke through that circle but it was certainly not for want of trying. She produced an endless stream of articles and books, including a very lucid account, with James Lambert, of electoral mechanics which has since become a standard

work on the subject, *How Democracies Vote* (1955).

She was known to colleagues for her almost religious devotion to the cause. The long working hours or the chill air of the society's high-ceilinged offices in Blackfriars meant nothing to her — especially when she was composing one of her waspish letters to *The Times*, *The Guardian* or *The Daily Telegraph*.

Enid Lakeman was educated at the Tunbridge Wells County Grammar School for Girls and at Bedford College, London University, where she took a first in chemistry. In the late 1920s she worked in Germany where she witnessed the first ominous signs of Nazism. She then held various posts in the chemical industry until 1939. During the war she joined the WAAF as a radar operator.

After the war the Liberal Party found itself living in a particularly cold electoral climate and Enid Lakeman was consistently frustrated in her attempts to enter Parliament. She stood for St Albans in 1945 and in the Brighton division of Lambeth in 1950. In 1955 and 1959 she stood in Aldershot and at the second of these elections actually managed to save her deposit.

Electoral success on a smaller scale came in 1962 when she was elected to the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for a

three-year term. She also served on innumerable Liberal Party and Liberal Democrat committees. Besides electoral reform, her particular interests were land value taxation, free trade and industrial co-partnership.

Her publications include *When Labour Falls* (1946), *Voting in Democracies* (1955), *Nine Democracies* (1973) and *Power to Elect* (1982). She had a distinctive prose style, and a rare economy of words. Proportional representation and the STV are complicated systems to explain but Enid Lakeman when writing and speaking made them relatively simple to understand.

She retired as director of the Electoral Reform Society in 1980 and was appointed OBE that same year.

For the past thirty years she had battled with arthritis and in 1993 she had a serious fall. Within a month, however, she was back in her own home, tentatively walking about with two sticks. Recently, at the age of nearly 91, she attended conferences in Iceland and Berlin, as well as last year's gathering of the Liberal Democrats. Intellectually she was as sharp as ever, and could still correct a proof more accurately than people a third of her age. Being so devoted to her work, she never seriously considered the idea of marriage.

## ROY ASHTON

Roy Ashton, film make-up artist and singer, died on January 10 aged 85. He was born in Perth, Australia, in 1909.

ROY ASHTON'S highly stylised make-up designs established him as a master of the cinema of the fantastic. However, his first love was always music and he was regarded as one of Britain's finest tenors.

After training as an architectural draughtsman in Perth he came to Britain in 1932, working his way across the oceans as a ship's purser. He hoped to make a career for himself in music and was accepted for study at the Central School of Arts and Crafts but while there he saw an advertisement for a five-year training programme in cinema make-up. For some reason he felt drawn toward this opportunity and thus began to study the techniques involved, under the expert guidance of specialists from the UFA Studios in Berlin, who had fled Hitler's Germany.

Ashton completed the course in 1938, and began work as a freelance make-up artist. He did much of his early work at Gainsborough Studios, with directors such as Hitchcock and Korda.

When the Second World War began, Ashton served as a special constable in London and in 1942 received a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music, where he studied with Roy Henderson. He did not complete the course until 1947, however, as he spent two years as a radar instructor in the Army.

Upon completion of his musical training, Ashton became a founder member of Benjamin Britten's English Opera Group, creating the role of the Mayor in *Albert Herring*, and the role of Henry Puddington in *The Beggar's*



Ashton with skull masks he prepared for the 1972 film, *Tales from the Crypt*

Opera. He also understudied Peter Pears in many of his roles. In 1947, he married Elizabeth Cooper, the singer.

Ashton was a member of the Intimate Opera, and sang in more than 2,000 performances, touring Britain and Europe. However, his singing career did not provide steady enough work, so Ashton filled his spare time with work on films.

While working on Gene Kelly's *Invitation to a Dance* in 1954, Ashton met Phil Leakey, who was the principal make-up designer for Hammer Films. Ashton began to assist Leakey at Hammer, demonstrating a flair for unusual and stylish make-up designs. During this

time he did other work as well, notably *Dunkirk* (1958) with Leslie Norman.

In 1959 Ashton succeeded Leakey as make-up chief at Hammer, a post he held until 1966, by which time he had established himself as "The Horror King". Ashton excelled himself in such films as *The Mummy* (1959), *The Two Faces of Dr Jekyll* (1960), *Dracula Prince of Darkness* (1966), the 1962 version of *Phantom of the Opera*, *The Evil of Frankenstein* (1964) and *Rasputin the Mad Monk* (1966).

Ashton's unique vision of the zombie in *The Plague of the Zombies* (1965) has been widely copied and his representation is now accepted as what a zombie should look

like. The ageing sequence in the 1965 version of *She*, which Ashton brilliantly designed, has become a classic of the genre. However, his most widely acclaimed work is in *The Curse of the Werewolf* (1960). Ashton personally selected the young Oliver Reed for the lead role and designed an impressive full-body make-up, using yak's hair.

Ashton did meticulous research from original sources, and extensively prepared his designs. After leaving Hammer in 1966 he hoped to work in other film genres, a wish that he fulfilled on Disney's *Candleshoe* (1971) and *The Spaceman and King Arthur* (1979). However, his reputa-

tion as "The Horror King", was too strong and he was still asked to do films like *Tales from the Crypt* (1972), which featured Ralph Richardson, Peter Cushing and Joan Collins.

Ashton was a mite disappointed at this typecasting. He wrote to Phil Leakey in 1980: "I don't seem to be able to get through those funny little 'productions'." He has left a legacy of original make-up designs and models, which reveal something of his creative processes at work.

Roy Ashton is survived by his wife Elizabeth.

## MAX HARRIS

Max Harris, AO, Australian poet and journalist, died in Adelaide on January 13 aged 73. He was born on April 13, 1921.



MAX HARRIS was a poet of quality, a crusading literary editor and a journalist whose writings on a wide variety of topics were a distinctive feature of *The Australian* over a number of years. His wartime magazine *Angry Penguins*, founded in 1940, deserves credit for its attempt to make Australian literature aware of currents of modernism which had been running strongly for several decades in Europe. However, it was Harris's fate to be remembered on the wider literary stage as the victim of one of the more amusing of literary impostures, the celebrated "Ern Malley" hoax.

Ern Malley was the creation of two other Australian poets, James McAuley and Harold Stewart, who set out to ridicule modernist poetry as it was then being championed in the pages of *Angry Penguins*. Culling words and phrases at random from books, news reports and magazines, the pair synthesised a poet of Dylan Thomas-like immediacy, whose impassioned ravings ("The pelvis explodes like a grenade") was a characteristic line) seemed to enthusiasts for his work to be the very quintessence of modernism. In one instance, taking an article from a scientific magazine about the breeding habits of New Guinea's anopheline mosquitoes, McAuley and Stewart forged a poem that was hailed as Oceania's answer to the mystifications of Eliot, Pound and Prévert.

Ern Malley was brought to

educated at St Peter's College and Adelaide University, where he won the Bunday prize for poetry. He had been writing poetry from an early age. His "Spanish Lullaby", written at the age of 16, was a striking meditation on the sufferings of ordinary people, particularly children, caused by the Spanish Civil War.

Adelaide was a hotbed of poetic activity in those years leading up to the Second World War with a number of magazines, such as the *Jindyworobak Anthology*, *Phoenix* and later Harris's *Angry Penguins*, being vehicles for the creative and critical energies of the young. Harris's first volume of poems, *The Gift of Blood*, appeared in 1940 and although it did not command universal admiration, certainly established him as a poetical force to be reckoned with.

His first novel, *The Vegetative Eye* (1943), was by contrast reviewed with unexaggerated savagery. But by that time Harris had already founded *Angry Penguins* with its manifesto to bring Australian literature kicking and screaming into the 20th century. This programme, with its implicit (and explicit) criticism of the long-established tradition of Australian outback balladry, fuelled jealousies in the South Australian literary establishment and *The Vegetative Eye*, admittedly a somewhat lush, pretentious performance, was a sacrifice to these.

The Ern Malley hoax was also a conservative reaction to the *Angry Penguins* aggressive, crusading stance, which tended to lay itself open to such ripostes. On another occasion Harris was compelled to publish an abject apology after he

had printed a review of a theatre production which was adjudged to be libellous. Meanwhile, to add to the Ern Malley humiliation, some of the fictitious poems which appeared in *Angry Penguins* were found to be indecent and Harris was fined five pounds for publishing obscene material.

Nevertheless, he bounced back from these setbacks to start a highly successful mail order bookstore and publish several more volumes of poetry. He also founded a number of literary magazines: *Australian Book Review*, *Verses in Australia* and a magazine he entitled *Ern Malley's Journal* out of sheer defiance. His collected poems were published in the volume *A Window at Night* in 1967.

This did not attract the reviews it perhaps deserved, and in the meantime Harris had turned to journalism, writing a column for *The Australian* for 27 years until his retirement in 1991. This ranged widely over social, literary and political issues, generally delivering his views in a provocative manner calculated to deflate official pomposity, "poppy popping" as he called it.

The paper also used Harris to write about Australian rules football and he brought to that forbidding rough game a discerning gaze which was at a tangent to those of normal sports reporters. This gave him an ability to draw out unusual aspects of a match, rather in the manner of a Neville Cardus on that very different game, cricket.

In 1985 Harris was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO). He is survived by his wife Yvonne and a daughter.

## PERSONAL COLUMN

## TICKETS FOR SALE

STREET, All England's Croquet Championships, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 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2818, 2819, 2820, 2821, 2822, 2823, 2824, 2825, 2826, 2827, 2828, 2829, 2830, 2831, 2832, 2833, 2834, 2835, 2836, 2837, 2838, 2839, 2840, 2841, 2842, 2843, 2844, 2845, 2846, 2847, 2848, 2849, 2850, 2851, 2852, 2853, 2854, 2855, 2856, 2857, 2858, 2859, 2860, 2861, 2862, 2863, 2864, 2865, 2866, 2867, 2868, 2869, 2870, 2871, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2875, 2876, 2877, 2878, 2879, 2880, 2881, 2882, 2883, 2884, 2885, 2886, 2887, 2888, 2889, 2890, 2891, 2892, 2893, 2894, 2895, 2896, 2897, 2898, 2899, 2900, 2901, 2902, 2903, 2904, 290



## NEWS

## Weizman wants talks called off

Ezer Weizman, the president of Israel, dramatically called for an immediate halt to peace negotiations with the Palestinians after one of the worst Islamic suicide attacks inside the Jewish State which killed at least 18 people and wounded more than 60, 14 of them seriously.

Most of the victims were soldiers returning from leave. They were at a bus station waiting for transport into the West Bank. A second blast was detonated ten minutes later, causing mayhem among people tending the wounded. Pages 1, 10

## Stagg 'arrested' for Wimbledon threat

A man believed to be Colin Stagg, who was last year cleared of murdering Rachel Nickell, was arrested on Wimbledon Common after being accused of threatening another man and his son with an axe. Page 1

## Blair in unions row

Tony Blair clashed with trade union leaders as he warned that Labour could remain in the wilderness unless the party ditched nationalisation. Page 1

## Schools accused

Primary schools are being exposed as the education system's weakest link by the new Government inspection regime. Page 1

## Clarke backs Europe

Kenneth Clarke fuelled Cabinet tensions over Europe by supporting a single currency, rejecting a referendum and arguing that Britain should work with France and Germany to shape the European union. Page 2

## Mountain rescue

Mountain rescue teams battled through the night and appalling weather to save a climber who had been swept from a Scottish mountain by an avalanche that killed another man. Page 3

## Harvey Smith crash

A seven-year-old boy was fighting for his life after his father and two other people died in a crash involving Harvey Smith, the former showjumper. Page 3

## Irish alliance

An unlikely alliance of Sinn Féin and loyalists have told the Government that the peace process will be threatened unless terrorist prisoners are released as a reward for the ceasefires. Page 5

## Four weddings and a trip to Heaven

Hugh Grant, Britain's best hope for an Oscar nomination next month, threw his English reserve to the winds when he picked up a Golden Globe award for his role in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*. Grant gushed: "It's tragic how much I'm enjoying this, virtually uncool. You're supposed to think awards are invidious but this is Heaven." Page 1

## PoWs demand justice

British prisoners of war who were held in Japanese labour camps by Tokyo tomorrow to fight for compensation for their suffering, 50 years after being liberated by the Allies. Page 6

## Cornwall at war

There is a mood of vengeance abroad in Cornwall where people, young and old, are preparing to practise their ancient wrecking skills on the Conservative Government. Page 8

## World under attack

The world is now up against invaders of a different kind: drug smugglers, racketeers, and murderers. *Agenda*. Page 9

## OJ in court

After seven months as the most famous murder suspect in American history, O.J. Simpson faces his jury for the first time today. Page 12

## Landslide fear

Survivors, many of them in makeshift shelters, faced fears of landslides, violent aftershocks, and disease as driving rain and intense cold hampered relief efforts in the devastation of Kobe. Page 12

## Chechnya holds on

There is no Russian flag above the smoking Presidential Palace; President Dudayev has returned to the city and the Chechens still hold significant ground. Page 13

## SPORT

**Football:** Eric Cantona scored a splendid headed goal in the eighth minute at Old Trafford to give Manchester United a 1-0 win over Blackburn that cut their league lead to two points. Page 23

**Cricket:** Alec Stewart has injured the finger he has broken twice and is out of the England team for the fourth Test. Mike Gatting is back in contention. Page 25

**Rugby union:** England and France got away to well-earned winning starts in the five nations' championship, on Saturday, and Scotland beat Canada. Pages 26, 27

**Golf:** Fred Couples produced a record-equaling total of 268 — 20 under par — to push Colin Montgomerie into second place in the Dubai Desert Classic. Page 24

**Tennis:** Pete Sampras, of the United States, had to battle back from two sets down against Magnus Larsson, of Sweden in the Australian Open. Page 25

**Skating:** Alberto Tomba, of Italy, won his ninth successive World Cup slalom at Wengen. Page 24

**Racing:** The Irish Champion Hurdle in Leopardstown was postponed because of a waterlogged course. Page 34

**Warnings:** Red and yellow cards have swamped English football as referees carry out the edicts of the world governing body. It is claimed to have resulted in better entertainment. Page 28

**Tennis:** Simon Barnes finds Martina Navratilova reveling in retirement. Page 31

**Rugby league:** Leeds returned to the top of the first division table, beating Warrington 30-0. Page 24

**Afterthoughts:** Clement Freud hankers for the days when boxers were just like the rest of us. Page 35

## LOTTERY NUMBERS

6, 16, 20, 30, 31, 47. Bonus: 4.



This Gianni Versace dress, split to the waist, epitomised the return to glamour at the start of the Paris haute couture shows

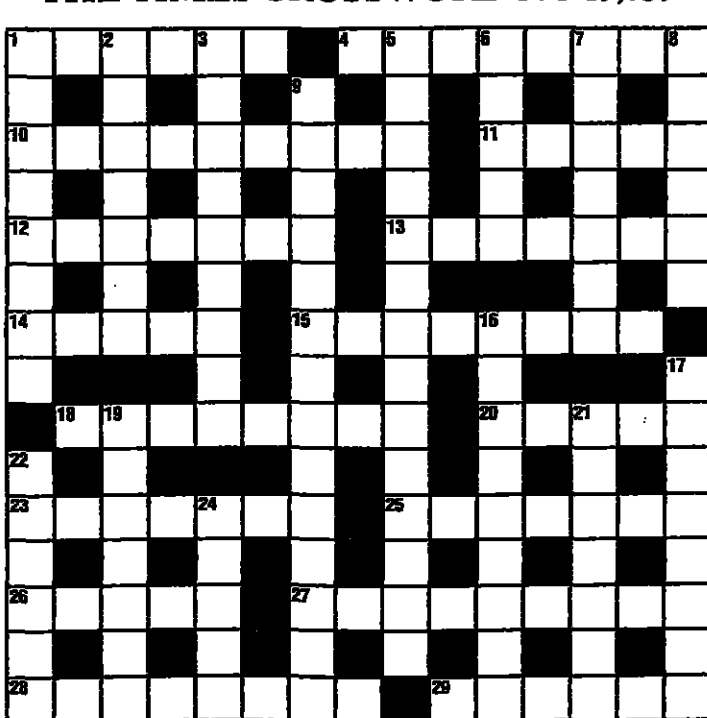
## IN THE TIMES

**DANCE BITES**  
The Royal Ballet takes to the road, and lets down its hair on a British mini-tour

**BERNARD LEVIN**  
Who could believe that people would steal donations to Oxfam shops?



## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,759



- ACROSS**
- Made an impact using edges of set scrub (6)
  - City having no reason to be concerned with the environment (8)
  - Brewed in teapot with litre capacity (9)
  - Old coin minted originally in Dominion (5)
  - A permissive occupation? (7)
  - Start off work to get oil (7)
  - Choice of quarters for Ibsen, perhaps (5)
  - There's... that's for remembrance... (Hamlet) (8)
  - He may make good husband after touching introduction to romance (8)
  - Soft leather commonly used for the head, reportedly (5)
  - River crossing is one way only (7)
  - Secure compliance with directions by police (7)
- DOWN**
- Superintendent accepts scheme to ensure succession (8)
  - Hung either way, it's undeniably a Turner (7)
  - Study obscure medical speciality with relish (9)
  - Soldier races off to accompany long route march (6-8)
  - Cyril's adaptation of expressive verse (5)
  - He provides light though less inclined to work after midnight (7)
  - Some policemen take these to form a firm attachment (6)
  - Impress in playing technique for digital recording (14)
  - A dangerous place for single men if led astray (9)
  - Passage journalist dashed off (8)
  - English doctor on old ship in Prohibition (7)
  - Section holding a series of exercises in defensive work (7)
  - Produces compositions for ceremonies, so to speak (6)
  - Able to board old English craft (5)

**KNOCKKANDO**  
The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,758 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockkando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

**THE TIMES WEATHERCALL**

For regional forecasts, dial 0800 550 followed by code

Area	Code	Forecast
Great Britain	100	See main forecast
North East	101	See main forecast
North West	102	See main forecast
Yorkshire	103	See main forecast
East of England	104	See main forecast
West of England	105	See main forecast
South East	106	See main forecast
South West	107	See main forecast
Wales	108	See main forecast
Scotland	109	See main forecast
Ireland	110	See main forecast

**HIGHEST & LOWEST**

See main forecast for details of temperature and weather conditions.

## HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises  
7.52 am

Sun sets  
4.33 pm

Moon sets  
10.20 am

Moon rises  
11.20 am

1st Quarter tomorrow

London 4.33 pm to 7.51 am

Priston 4.43 pm to 8.00 am

Edinburgh 4.26 pm to 8.59 am

Manchester 4.34 pm to 8.07 am

Birmingham 5.00 pm to 8.07 am



## CRICKET

25

Finger of fate points Stewart to England sidelines



## RUGBY UNION

27

England blow hot to defeat gales in Dublin



## TENNIS

31

At ease in the court of Queen Martina



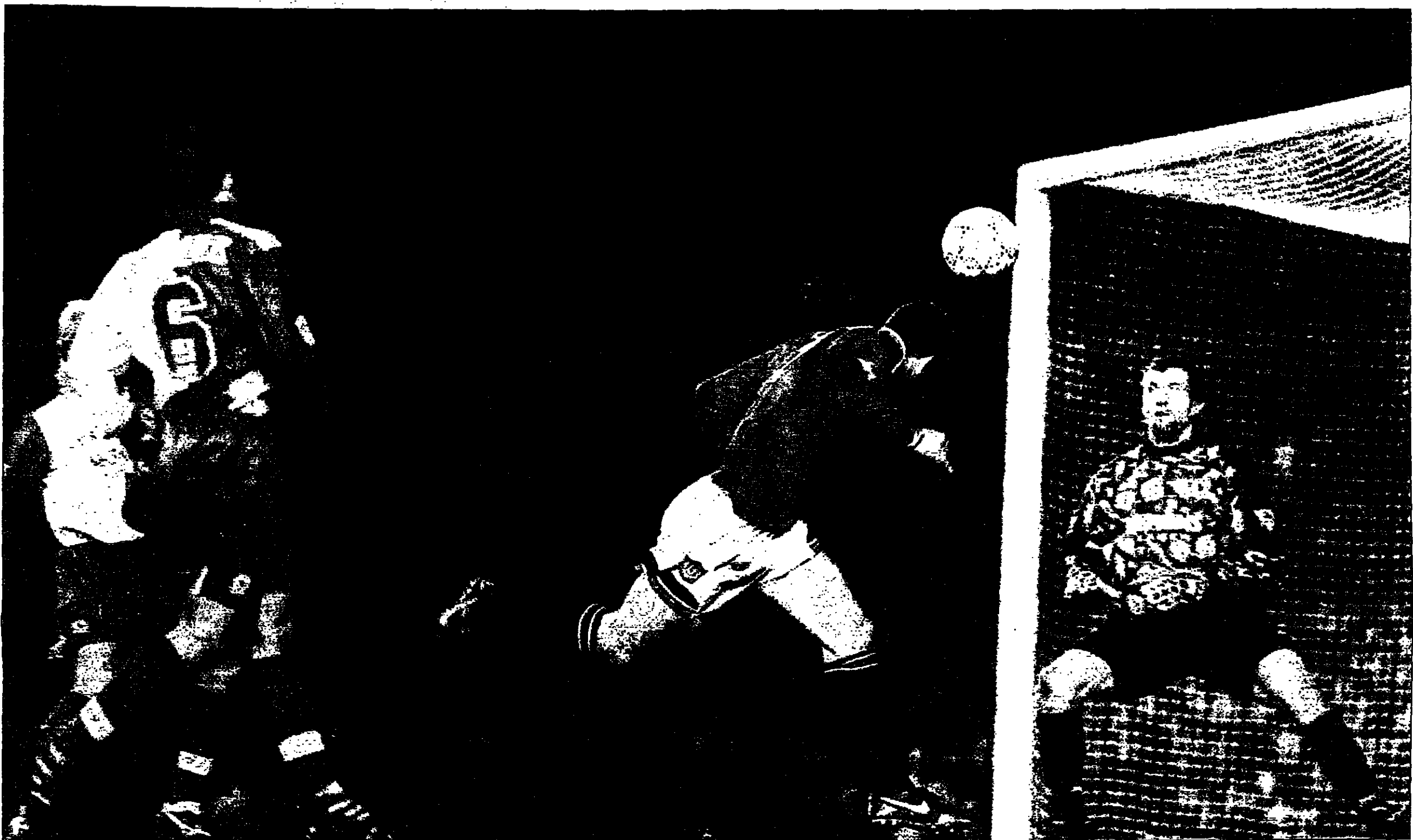
## SCHOOLS SPORT

35

Kid-glove approach puts boxing in a class of its own



## TIMES SPORT



Cantona stretches to head the goal past Flowers, the Blackburn Rovers goalkeeper, that lifted Manchester United's title aspirations at Old Trafford yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

United close gap at the top on negative Blackburn

## Cantona makes Rovers pay

Manchester United ..... 1  
Blackburn Rovers ..... 0

BY DAVID MILLER

MANCHESTER United and Blackburn Rovers each got exactly what their respective performances deserved, never mind that Blackburn were disallowed a last-gasp equalising goal. Football at its best is about magic and glory, and there was little of either about Blackburn.

A critical victory for the league champions in this FA Cup replay against Newcastle United owed little or nothing to Andy Cole, their much-overpriced new centre forward, who was never more than a peripheral figure. The winning touch, in the eighteenth minute, came from a marvellous combination between the two cleverest players on the field, Giggs and Cantona.

Kenny Dalglish has spent more than £20 million assembling his team, yet came to Old Trafford with no ambition other than to prevent Manchester United from playing football and to steal a point. It is a reflection of the relative attraction of the two teams that the crowd yesterday was almost twice that at Ewood Park for last Wednesday's FA Cup replay against Newcastle United. Blackburn do not excite minds beyond the Ribbles Valley, indeed, not even as far down the road as Burnley.

All managers are excusably prone to intensely subjective assessment immediately after a match, but on this occasion

I'm more inclined to agree with Alex Ferguson than with Dalglish. Ferguson said it would have been "a travesty if we hadn't won". It would, indeed, Dalglish complained that both encounters this season had been determined by referees' decisions, which remains arguable.

I did not see Berg's sending-off at Blackburn, which had tipped the balance towards United in a 4-2 victory — Blackburn's last defeat, on October 23, since when they have drawn once and won 11 times — but the decision yesterday seemed justifiable.

With Blackburn hurling the ball forward in a desperate last series of attacks, and with less than two minutes remaining, a long, diagonal cross

from Berg dropped towards Keane and Shearer on the left of United's penalty area. As they rose together, Shearer's outstretched left hand nudged Keane between the shoulder blades, helping to cause Keane to miss the ball and enabling Shearer to head square to Sherwood, who headed past Schmeichel.

The give-away response, in the light of heated debate that continued afterwards, is that Shearer, seeing that the goal had been disallowed, walked away without vigorous protest.

Yet, if you play persistently with 11 men behind the ball, including £8 million worth of strikers, if your plan of attack is chiefly to hump the ball forward, or wide to Wilcox in

the hope he can cross it; if a third of the play takes place in your defensive third of the field, as opposed to less than one fifth of the play in your opponents', it seems to me there is small cause for complaint about defeat. All the heat, on an afternoon when the players' breath left puffs of cotton wool in the air, now came from United.

In the first quarter of an hour of the second half, United temporarily faltered as they failed to find a way through the blue maze of Blackburn shirts. This was the spell during which the league leaders might have stolen victory and widened their lead to eight points, rather than the two it has become.

What was puzzling was

Ferguson's decision to leave Kanchelskis on the bench, only introducing the winger as substitute for Sharpe just under a quarter of an hour from the end.

Giggs is happier on the left, and it was within three minutes of his switch to replace the departing Sharpe that Giggs's enlightened moment brought Cantona's spectacular winner.

And Cole? His best opening came with the match less than two minutes run. A ball floated forward by McClair cleared Hendry, the Scotland central defender, who as ever was the rock on which Blackburn's resistance was founded. In the split second in which a Law or a Best would have put the bouncing ball away, Cole hesitated, finally bundling his shot wide.

Thereafter, however, Cole seldom bothered Hendry or Warhurst. Occasionally, he would control and hold the ball with his back to goal, in the manner of Hughes, the man he was bought to replace. Otherwise, a combination of Blackburn's physical strength and sheer numbers repeatedly smothered him.

The first half flew by in no time at all, an indication of the excitement and attention that gripped everyone present in the packed stadium. Flowers needed to plunge to his right early on to turn away a shot deflected by Hendry, with United rampant, but although United were streaming forward their nearest chance of the first half came on the stroke of half-time. A low cross by Keane — ostensibly playing at right back — was scrambled

away to the left by Hendry, then rolled back to Ince, whose blistering low drive was fumbled by Flowers and spun narrowly to safety.

Simon set up Wilcox for a shot early in the second half which screwed away out of control, and twice Shearer saw half-chances come and go, but Blackburn's counter-attacking policy, though dangerous, seldom prospered and now United were again calling the tune. Cole vainly wondering how he might get into the match. In yet one more attack.

Cole's debut ..... 28  
Clean-up on cards ..... 28  
Newcastle held ..... 29  
Results and tables ..... 30  
Win a United shirt ..... 31

Giggs, fed by the elusive Cantona on the left, seemed to have lost the ball to Berg, regaining it with a lunge of his left leg.

Quickly he curled the ball across the penalty area and Cantona, who in anticipation had shrewdly run for the far post, scored with a header into the roof of the net from the most acute of angles. That goal deserved the spoils, though Blackburn will long argue about the way they were denied.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-1-1): P. Schmeichel — R. Keane, S. Bruce, G. Poyser, D. Morrison — R. Goss, B. McClair, P. Ince, I. Sharpe (subs: A. Kanchelskis, 76m) — E. Cantona — A. Cole.  
BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T. Flowers — H. Berg, C. Hendry, P. Warhurst, G. Le Sueur — J. Wilcox (subs: M. Stewart, 89m, M. Adams, 100m), P. Peters, 69m, T. Sherwood, A. Wright — C. Sutton, A. Shearer.  
Referee: P. Durkin.



Cole runs out for his first appearance in a Manchester United shirt yesterday

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Mayrhofen	30	100	good	varied	fair	fair	4 21/1
	(Soft snow off piste due to milder weather)						
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	(Heavy snowfalls; poor visibility; outlook good)						
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<b>ITALY</b>							
Cervinia	80	250	good	varied	good	snow	1 22/1
	(Pistes in excellent shape with fresh snow)						
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>							
Montana	230	280	good	heavy	good	snow	3 22/1
	(Wet snow falling; rain in villages; high avalanche risk)						
St. Moritz	85	130	good	varied	good	cloud	5 21/1
	(Excellent skiing in all areas despite mild weather)						

and Krishman. Jennings replied for Guildford from a short corner.

Southgate, after a 2-0 victory over Reading on Saturday, took up the chase with a 1-0 away win yesterday over Havant. Woods scoring in the 55th minute. Potter's goal in the 60th minute from a penalty stroke was enough to give Hounslow a 1-0 victory over Firebrand.

Andy Humphrey, of Hull, was sent off in the 53rd minute of the 1-1 draw with Slough. His automatic suspension will cost him a trip to India for the Indira Gandhi tournament in Delhi.

Barford Tigers retained the leadership of the second division with a 4-2 win over Whichurch. Nisar Chaudry scored twice for Barford.

**Scores, page 32**







Visitors undone as France turn early resistance into compelling display of attacking rugby

# Wales given object lesson in art of ruthless execution

France ..... 21  
Wales ..... 9

FROM GERALD DAVIES  
IN PARIS

PIERRE BERBIZIER, the France coach, divided this match not into a game of two halves, as is so often the case in sporting-speak — and something he might well have done, so dominant was his team territorially after the interval — but rather into the first 20 minutes and the rest.

Wales had begun this first encounter in the 1995 five nations' championship with surprising urgency and, indeed, control. For the first quarter, they took the game confidently to their opponents. With a flow of possession from the lineout, not only on their throw-in but on that of the French, too, Robert Jones was given the platform from which to launch his testing kicks. Hall to probe in midfield and the two Davies in the back row to drive the French uncomfortable backwards.

Few had expected Wales to start in so authoritative a mood. They had already taken the lead in the second minute with Jenkins having kicked a penalty goal from short range. Holding France in a tight grip, they then went back for more. But, when no more came, the doubts began to grow. For all their advantages of territory and possession, how would Wales succeed in penetrating the French resistance? What tricks had they up their sleeves to create gaps or stretch their opponents?

They were not to do so, and it was France who found that they always had men to spare to cancel out potential threats. This was Berbizier's first period, when his team were without the ball and when they relied on their tackling. What then followed was, as he

categorised it afterwards, a period of movement.

Nothing so becomes a French team as, on sensing a loosening of their opponents' hold or of their growing frustration at getting nowhere, their ability to depart from the static rugby script of set-piece play. Like the release of a coiled spring, they are motivated to stretch their legs and give the ball some air.

Roumat came charging downfield to find not one of his

ruthlessly exposed, that the Wales defence was left exhausted. The solitary Walker, who was later to catch his opposite number from behind with a try-saving tackle, had little chance this time of stopping N'Tamack from scoring.

No incident typified the difference between these teams better than this devastating thrust. So seamless and slick was the execution that Wales never looked likely to emulate it. France, for their part, produced more of the same, but Deylaud, Sella and Saint-André each, crucially, looked either the wrong way or took the wrong option.

"We are strong in movement," Berbizier concluded, using the word "movement" like a mantra on Saturday evening. "But we cannot hope to win at Twickenham if we do not take advantage of them." The Wales midfield, chasing here and there, was, on occasions, left unattended as France held sway.

When the next try came, in the 28th minute, four minutes after another penalty goal by Jenkins had again put his team ahead, Wales did have an empty space on their wing. While Hill was gaining attention for a sprained ankle, France exploited his absence and spread the ball wide for Saint-André to score. Lacroix converted from the touchline, then added a penalty goal before half-time.

Hill's injury was not as serious as that which befell Ricky Evans, whose broken tibia and fibula close to his ankle means that Wales's injury misfortune continues. The prop will not play again this season, and it is touch and go for the World Cup. Even before this match, Bob Norster and Alan Davies, the Wales management team, had six of their first choices unavailable. No international team can sustain such blows.



CHAMPIONSHIP

## DETAILS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	1	1	0	0	20	8	2
France	1	1	0	0	21	9	2
Ireland	1	1	0	1	8	20	0
Wales	1	0	0	0	9	21	0
Scotland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS: Ireland 8 England 20; France 21 Wales 9

FIXTURES: Feb 4: England v France, Scotland v Ireland, Feb 18: Wales v England, France v Scotland, Mar 4: Scotland v Wales, Ireland v France, Mar 18: England v Scotland, Wales v Ireland

own size in the way but rather Jenkins, the Wales stand-off half. It was no contest. Sniffing the disarray, the French began to roll, with choices appearing to left and right. Sadoirny was there. So was Cabannes, and Accocebery.

The whole movement had been so quick and ruthless in its execution, and the visitors' weakness — of which there had been no hint hitherto — so



Sadoirny, the France full back, breaks through the Wales defence during his side's 21-9 triumph at the Parc des Princes

Their faith is being tested on biblical proportions.

They congratulated their team for courage and spirit in difficult circumstances. Their problem, however, now that they have partially resolved their recent difficulties of lack of possession, is what to do with it. Wales must take a leaf out of the French book.

If no more tries came France's way in the second half, with Lacroix kicking two more penalty goals to Jenkins's one, they had shown enough during that hour of "movement" to demonstrate that it is the speed with which such possession is used that matters, and which gets tries scored and matches won.

Wales A beat their French counterparts for only the second time on French soil, winning 21-15 at the John Boun Stadium in Paris on Saturday. The previous evening, Wales students had won for the first time in France, 18-9 at Le Creusot.

Tries in the second half for Gareth Taylor, the No 8, and

Paul John, the captain and scrum half, were enough for Wales A in a game marred by the sending off of Olivier Magne, the France A flanker.

SCORERS: France: Tries: T. Magne, S. André; Conversion: Lacroix; Penalty goals: Lacroix (2). Wales: Penalty goals: Jenkins (2).

FRANCE: J. Sadoirny (Captain); E. N'Tamack (Toulouse); P. Sella (Agen); Lacroix (Rugby); P. Saint-André (Montpellier); G. Deylaud (Toulon); G. Accocebery (Bordeaux-Mérignac); L. Berbizier (Racing); J. Cabannes (Bayonne); G. Collado (Montpellier); D. Roumat (Agen); Cabannes (Racing); P. Berbizier (Agen).

WALLES: A. Jenkins (Cardiff); S. D. Hill (Swansea); M. R. Hall (Cardiff); M. Taylor (Pontypool); N. Walker (Cardiff); N. R. Jenkins (Pontypool); R. M. Jones (Swansea); P. I. Jones (Llanelli); G. R. Jones (Swansea); J. D. Davies (Neath); S. Davies (Swansea); J. Jones (Cardiff); G. O. Lewis (Neath); R. G. Collins (Pontypool); P. T. Davies (Llanelli); M. Roberts (Cardiff); M. Roberts (Cardiff); M. Roberts (Cardiff).

Referee: N. Pearson (England).

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## Character bows to touch of class



ANDREW LONGMORE  
At Parc des Princes

Character and attitude. The Welsh talked a lot about character and attitude in the aftermath of another defeat in Paris. "The players showed great character," Alan Davies, the Wales coach, said. "Our attitude was good." Robert Norster, his benchman, added. The words are often used by coaches to burnish defeat.

In the bar at the Café des Deux Stades just opposite the main gates of the Parc des Princes, where Welsh and French voices mingled in uncomprehending harmony long after the details of a scrappy match had faded, the same sentiment was being expressed in the more robust language of the terrace. "We tried bloody hard. No disgrace," one red-and-white bearded man shouted across to a group of supporters wearing tricolour scarves, who, instinctively, raised their glasses in salute.

Yet a trust was in danger of being breached in Paris on Saturday, a precious and fragile truce, an understanding that no matter what the Irish, Scots or English might be doing, the Welsh and the French knew how the game of rugby should be played. The avalanches of jeers that greeted Neil Jenkins when he hoisted the ball over France's dead-ball line for the fourth time in the first 15 minutes, reflected betrayal

as much as boredom. Jenkins might have been deceived by a treacherous wind, but four times in 15 minutes? Where, the voices asked, was the adventure, the panache, the brio, the danger that used to characterise Welsh rugby? Where was the style? Stifled by the all-embracing blanket of character and attitude.

Acceptable defeat, the protection of morale for more winnable battles ahead, the avoidance of calamity seemed to be at the heart of Welsh strategy at the start of a five-month campaign. From a series of spontaneous explosions, the five nations' championship is in danger of being reduced to a slow-burning fuse, the explosion coming in South Africa in June. A good show in the World Cup and the spiritual poverty of Welsh play in the gusting wind and driving rain of mid-winter in Paris will be long forgotten.

Yet the Welsh were far from being disgraced. They were merely well beaten, outclassed in all the areas of the game that mattered. And

they did try hard and they were depleted by injuries, before and during the match. But if character and attitude are worthy qualities to set before the English, they are of little consequence against the fluidity and imagination of this new vintage French side, who, from time to time, seemed to lose concentration like a schoolboy faced with sums that he can solve too easily.

The French will be fun this year and, if they stick to the principles and forget their Rambo impersonations against England, the match at Twickenham, which will surely decide the championship, will be a classic. They bubble with life and character from back to front and, in Christophe Deylaud, their scamp of a stand-off half, they have a fetchingly chaotic playmaker. Deylaud has earned his nickname of the Toulouse Trump through diligent attention of dishevelment. *Décoiffé*, as the French say, I bet his kit bag is in a terrible state.

From the first minute, his socks were hugging his an-

gles, his shorts billowed in the wind and his straggly curls hung round his face like Medusa. He is 30, too slight to be a stand-off, is, by all accounts, not much of a tactical kicker nor a tackler of steel, but you can tell he loves his rugby and, just as Jenkins's instinct when he gets the ball in his hands is to kick as far upfield as he can, so Deylaud wants to run with it or pass it. Kicking is the third option. He also has courage. Tagged by Richie Collins in the opening stages, he was up and away before the Welshman had regained his feet.

He, above Accocebery, his scrum half, the fluent Sadoirny, at full back, and the ebullient N'Tamack, on the wing, epitomises a side full of mischief and devilry, and, though he was not at his best after recovering from a shoulder injury, by the time the English have into view he will be quite a handful for Dean Richards and company.

Of the rest of the match, little need be told. Conditions deteriorated, making any sort of handling a lottery. The final whistle blew as Garin Jenkins was pinning Christian Califfano to the turf in a private argument 50 yards away from play. It was the only time in the whole afternoon that Wales were on top.

## Gritty Scots achieve first objective

Scotland ..... 22  
Canada ..... 6

By MARK SOUSTER

SCOTLAND'S selectors meet tomorrow to pick the side to face Ireland in two weeks with much to ponder. The national team may have ended a dismal run of nine matches without a win on Saturday, but changes are needed, particularly behind the scrum.

The performance, if unconvincing, at least gives Scotland a much-needed boost to morale for their five nations' campaign. With Ireland dismantled by England, the outlook is not so bleak.

While the ills of the past 18 months cannot be corrected overnight, this remodelled Scotland side was under pressure to win and deserves credit for achieving its primary objective at a numbingly cold Murrayfield. While the wretched conditions did not help running rugby, Scotland stuck to their task and the margin of victory could, on another day, have been more emphatic.

The match was a personal triumph for Damian Cronin, recalled after impressive

performances in the A team against South Africa in Italy. A year ago, Cronin's international career appeared over. After the humiliation against New Zealand, Cronin, who believes rugby and life are to be enjoyed, appeared disenchanted.

A year on, a new life, a new club in France and a new business have restored the desire. "I looked at the players who have taken my place and knew I could do better," he said. And so it proved. Cronin, now of Bourges, scored Scotland's try, helped dominate the lineout with Stewart Campbell, a new cap, and twice put in crucial covering tackles.

The match followed a predictable pattern. Scotland confronted, controlled and ultimately subdued Canada, a side that offered little more than dogged defence and a penchant for spoiling tactics.

Ironically, it was Douglas Morgan's first win as coach, and that in the week that he announced he was stepping down after the World Cup. "It was very satisfying to win; Canada are difficult to play against and disruptive," he said.

Gavin Hastings took advantage of that poor discipline by kicking four penalty goals in the first half. Canada's only

response was two early penalty goals by Gareth Rees.

Such was Scotland's dominance up front, they should have had the match wrapped up by the interval. But the old indecision of the back division remained. Once Scotland realised that Scott Stewart, the Canada full back, was infallible under Chalmers's bombs, they began to prosper.

Cronin's try midway through the second half followed an unchallenged run to the line after a clever break by Chalmers. Hastings's wide, hanging conversion made it 19-6. Despite the carcass, he added another penalty goal to take his tally to 17 points and Scotland could relax.

SCORERS: Scotland: Try: Cronin. Conversion: Hastings. Penalty goals: Hastings (2). Canada: Penalty goals: Rees (2).

SCOTLAND: G. Hastings (Widnes), captain; G. John (Motherwell); G. Townsend (Glas); I. Jardine (Strling); G. Morgan (Glasgow); G. Chalmers (Motherwell); S. Redburn (Motherwell); D. Morgan (Bath); K. Mather (Motherwell); P. Mather (Boroughmuir); R. Whitworth (West Herts); D. Grant (Boroughmuir); S. Campbell (Cardiff); I. Morgan (London Scottish); E. Parnham (Bath).

CANADA: G. Stewart (USC Old Boys); W. Stanley (USC); G. Stewart (Western Province and Esso); S. Gray (Ox); S. Toomey (Motherwell); G. Rees (Oxford University); J. Stewart (Leicester); J. Grant (USC Old Boys); E. Evans (USC); M. Campbell (Leicester); S. D. Jackson (USC Old Boys); I. Gordon (James Bay); M. James (Durban); G. Whitley (Glasgow); G. Macdonald; E. Brannan (Luton); G. Macdonald (USC Old Boys).

Referee: G. Thomas (Wales).



# Supporters find harmony as big men call the tune

**MICHAEL  
HENDERSON**  
At Lansdowne Road

So it was a good weekend for England, on the field and in the pubs, helped considerably by the Irish gift for merriment. Now France awaits, and we will soon know whether Jacques is as good as his master.

□ Greg Campbell is a former rugby correspondent of The Australian.



# Cole counts cost of missing a priceless first chance to impress



Cole missed early chance

Ninety seconds into his first game for Manchester United, Andy Cole had the type of chance strikers thrive on. The chance went begging, and instead of a dream debut, Cole had to settle for a quietly satisfactory one.

That is something of a let down after all the hype, and it was certainly not what United had paid £7 million for. But Eric Cantona came to his new partner's rescue with the goal which opened up the championship race for United, and Cole could breathe more easily. In the context of yesterday's match, the result was all the single important thing for United's supporters and team was that Cole should finish on the winning side.

"He had a good chance and when you miss that sort of chance in your debut in a big match it is

not what you need," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said afterwards. "But it was a heck of a game to come into, it was like a cup final, it was always going to be very trying for him, but he got through it and I'm just happy for him that we won."

The suspicion that it was not going to be Cole's day was planted in that opening two minutes, and it was confirmed when his next chance arrived after Cantona's goal. But it was a quiet day for expensive English strikers all round, with Hendry, Blackburn's commanding figure and Pallister quickly excellent for United.

With big defenders dominating, Shearer had a quiet game until his contribution to Blackburn's disputed strike in the last minute, apart from getting booked, Sutton was even more anonymous as Black-

**Peter Ball watches English football's most expensive player take time to find his feet in a fiercely competitive atmosphere at Old Trafford yesterday**

burn defended in depth. What chance then for the 23-year-old Cole in a new team on such a frenetic day?

"He was caught offside once in the whole game, which is a measure of his thinking," Ferguson said. "He never gave the ball away, the simple things were all right. He was always moving around, but we may have to look at how we play. It doesn't happen over night."

Statistics show that Ferguson's analysis was right. Suggestions that he gives the ball away a lot, which had been made by Malcolm

Allison among others, were not backed up on this occasion as he completed all except one of the passes he attempted, and only lost possession three times. But if those statistics show a player taking part in the build ups, for much of the time he was let isolated as United's moves swirled around him.

The most telling observation was that United's attempts to free him in the penalty area received no reward as Hendry closed the gaps and United tried to force things hitting the ball earlier and longer to exploit his speed. Yet his first chance came from just such an

attempt by McClair. Warhurst intercepted McClair's searching pass but could only head it into the air. It fell behind him and Cole, like the predator he is, pounced. Chesting the ball forward, he put his chance wide before going down under the combined challenge of Flowers and Hendry.

"He could have had a dream start but he'll be a great acquisition for us," Steve Bruce, the United captain said. "Once he gets one, he'll be on his way."

That goal might have arrived as at last spaces opened up in the Blackburn defence after Cantona's goal. But one attempt was blocked after Kanchelskis found him, and two others went wide or over the bar as first McClair, and then Kanchelskis again, provided openings.

"I thought he did well, it's always

hard with a price tag like that around your neck but he handled it well," Paul Ince, the United mid-field player, said. Ince's return to the United side could not have been better timed and he will clearly be an important factor in Cole's integration.

While Cole may have spent the evening ruing the goal that might have been, the rival managers disputed the goal that never was. Referring to referee Paul Durkin's decision to penalise Alan Shearer when Tim Sherwood scored in the last minute, Kenny Dalglish, of Blackburn, said: "I don't think there is any doubt it was a goal."

Ferguson, not surprisingly, disagreed. "Shearer pushed Kean, which is a foul because the forward seeks to gain an advantage. How could it have been a goal?" he asked.

## Tranmere triumphant but lacking conviction

Tranmere Rovers ..... 3  
Oldham Athletic ..... 1

BY ALYSON RUDD

TRANMERE Rovers came from a goal behind to break their jinx at home to Oldham Athletic yesterday, but the general mistrust about their ability to achieve FA Carling Premiership status remains.

This was the first time that the nearly men from Birkenhead had won while featured on the Sunday Match. The Granada television officials must have begun to wonder why they bothered with Tranmere, who always promised to deliver a quality game but never quite did so. Despite a comfortable, two-goal margin of victory yesterday, quality football was still the missing ingredient.

All three Tranmere goals were well-taken, particularly

only one of their ten previous matches.

However, the Merseyside club forced an equaliser seven minutes later. Malkin meeting Brannan's cross to the far post and looping his header over Gerrard in the Oldham goal.

In the 27th minute, Malkin should have scored again after Muir fed him a lovely pass into the penalty area. But Malkin dawdled slightly and, when Nevin ghosted in to take over, the two Tranmere players got in each other's way.

The second half seemed certain to swing in the visitors' favour. Halle was a constant danger on the right and he almost scored from Brennan's corner, but Nixon just managed to tip his header over the crossbar. In the 66th minute, Banger should have done better when found unmarked by Halle, but he scooped the ball over the bar.

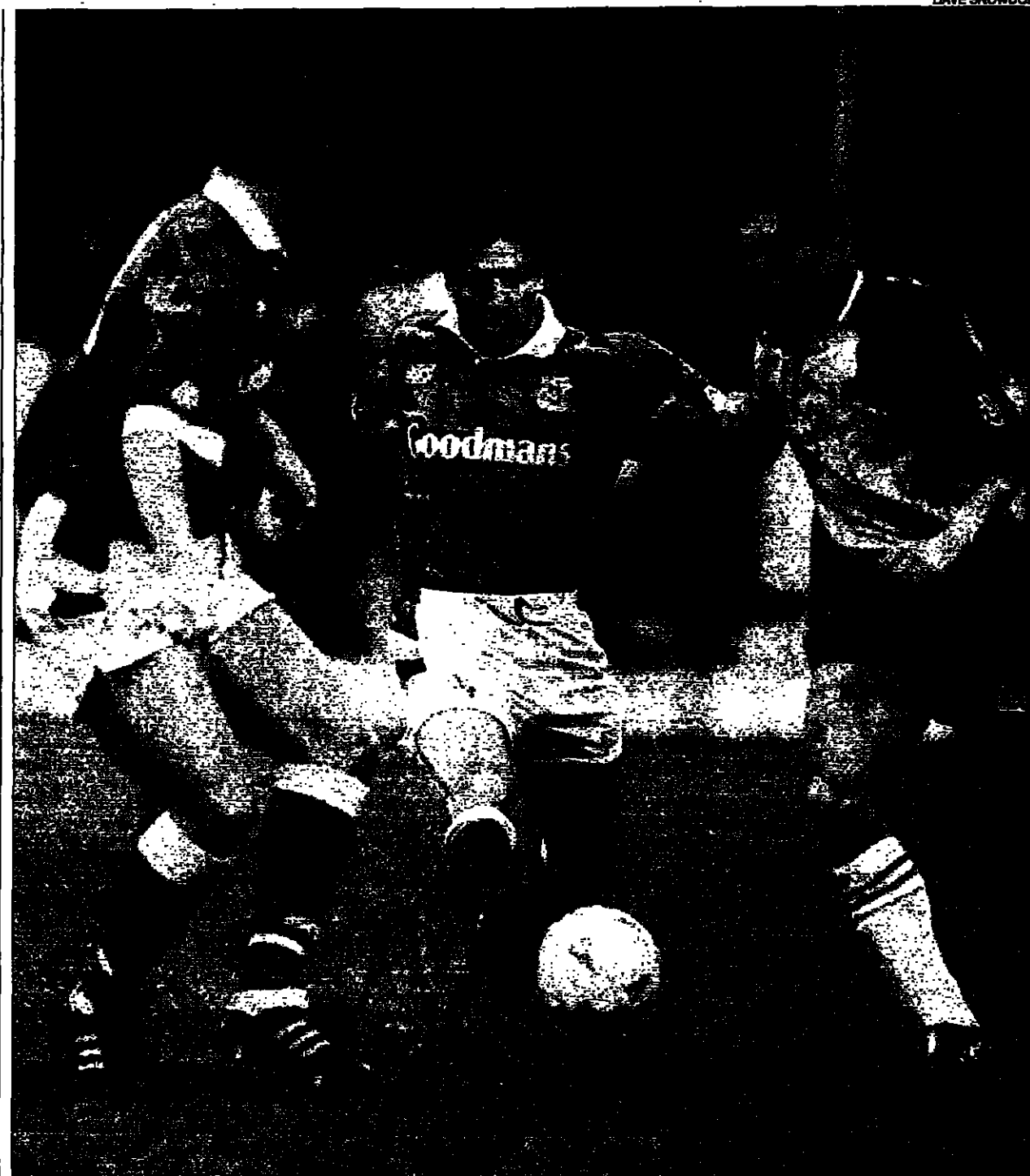
These were chances that Oldham should have taken, and they were punished when Tranmere suddenly revealed a glimpse of why it is that the television cameras still opt for Prenton Park. Thomas spotted Brannan's run and fed him the perfect ball for him to lift the ball across the face of the goal, enabling Muir to lunge in with the header. Aldridge is injured, but for a few moments nobody was missing the prolific forward.

Oldham continued to press, but Tranmere sealed the match with Brannan's blistering, 25-yard strike. Sharp had excuses to hand should he have wished to use them. He was out injured and so was McCarthy, Oldham's top scorer this season. With Henry, their influential midfielder, serving a suspension, the visitors' ranks were clearly depleted, but Sharp insisted that the players chosen could and should have carved out a result, and defended better when it mattered.

Tranmere lie fourth in the Endleigh Insurance first division and in sight of the play-offs once more. But something is missing. Yesterday, it was not luck that they lacked, but class and conviction.

TRANMERE ROVERS (4-4-2): E. Nelson — T. Thomas, D. Higgins, L. O'Brien (sub: S. Morgan, G. Brown) — J. Montgomery, K. Jones, J. McClellan, P. Nevin — C. Malkin, I. Muir.

OLDHAM ATHLETIC (4-4-2): P. Gerrard — C. McKain, R. Graham, S. Redmond, N. Portman — G. Halle, I. Brooker, L. Richardson (sub: R. Holden, B. M. Brennan) — A. Ritchie, N. Banger. Referee: E. Parker



Stallard, of Derby, plays close attention to the threatening run of Radosavljevic at the Baseball Ground

## Simpson gives Derby triple treat

Derby County ..... 3  
Portsmouth ..... 0

BY IVO TENNANT

OF THE two matches to be televised yesterday, this was the poorer relation. Unless, that was, you happened to be watching at three particular moments in the second half when Paul Simpson struck left-footed goals that were quite out of keeping with everything else.

Simpson's record would suggest that he has always hit his goals with such vehemence. Yet his has been a decidedly poor season: two goals, just one of them in the Endleigh Insurance League, and, hitherto, nothing since November. Man-of-the-match awards will never be easier to give than this one.

There was much talk at the

Baseball Ground of rebuilding on and off the pitch, and it is by no means certain that Simpson, at the age of 28 and presumably in his prime, will be a part of all that. Players come and go at Derby and the higher wage earners generally go. Yet, as Roy McFarland, the manager, said, you do not normally see such a clean hat-trick as this.

Clean in the sense that one goal of the three is normally a scruffy affair, a tap-in at the far post, a deflected drive or something similar. Simpson, who had only four chances, struck each with precision and power. The fourth was parried with some difficulty.

His first goal, scored after a first half in which Radosavljevic, his opposite number, appeared much more of a threat, was similar to his last. Each was driven past Knight from moves emanat-

ing from the right wing. The second was the pick in that Simpson bent the ball around a defensive wall correctly aligned to counter a block-buster. There was little that could have been done about such finesse.

This was Simpson's fourth hat-trick of his career, two having come for Derby and two when he was with Oxford United. The difference now, he feels, is that he takes up more advanced positions, particularly in home matches, and works harder at tackling.

As for Portsmouth, other than Radosavljevic, they were devoid of ideas. In the first half, a corner by McLoughlin slipped through Sutton's hands and a drive by Kristensen midway through the second half was held only with difficulty. Radosavljevic would beat his man, sometimes bring off a one-two, but

not often did a colleague make anything of it. After joining Portsmouth in the summer, Radosavljevic was injured and missed the start of the season, but there is little doubting that he has the ability to succeed at this level.

In short, Portsmouth had no Simpson. "His hat-trick was long overdue. Indeed a goal was long over due from him," McFarland said, although he proffered praise as well. He has sold players worth £6 million in an attempt to cut Derby's large wage bill, but still feels that he has a team good enough to take part in the play-offs this season.

DERBY COUNTY: S. Sutton, D. Wassell, C. Short (sub: D. Webb, B. Smith), M. Forsyth, S. Nicholson — J. Kinsman, P. Topley, W. Sutton, P. Simpson — M. Stallard, M. Galloway.

PORTSMOUTH: A. Knight, R. Padiach, G. Baines, R. Kristensen, L. Russell — M. Davies, A. McLoughlin (sub: P. Hall, B. L. McGrath, P. Radosavljevic) — D. Powell, G. Crossley. Referee: I. Crockett.

## Clubs count the heavy cost of Fifa's clean-up

Russell Kempson finds Premiership clubs struggling to cope with the effects of this season's disciplinary clampdown by referees

THERE is no escaping the relentless red-and-yellow tide. As the FA Carling Premiership rolls on towards its conclusion in May, when joy and despair will be distributed equally, so the flood of bookings and dismissals continues to stir the emotions of players, managers and supporters alike. Occasionally, even a Premiership referee, the much-vaunted man in green, will be heard to mumble, privately and almost apologetically, that he is only obeying orders.

Of the 22 Premiership clubs, most have already surpassed their total cautions for the whole of last season, and there is still more than three months of 1994-95 to go. Total bookings are just short of 900, almost 150 more than the entire 1993-94 campaign. Sendings off are also on an upward curve — 43 so far this season, only 27 last — and suspensions are sidelining millions of pounds-worth of wayward talent each week. Bans have been read to more than 100 players since August.

Such apparent disciplinary anarchy is a result of the pre-season directive from Fifa, the sport's world governing body, after its successful experiment during the World Cup finals in the United States last summer. No scything tackles from behind or from the side, no over-robust challenges, no flagrant time-wasting, no nothing. It was designed to put the zing back into football, curtail tuggery and provide the spectator with a more palatable menu. In general, it has done, but at a cost.

Premiership squads, already depleted by physical wear and tear, have lost additional key personnel as the cards have come in, wave after wave. Harassed managers have drafted in youngsters, club chairmen have dusted off the cheque books. "The rigid regime restricts its nadir on Boxing Day, when Southampton and Wimbledon met at The Dell, Graham Poll, from Reading, one of the Premiership's elite 22, accumulated 11 bookings and a sending off, a case of him strictly enforcing what Fifa originally decreed. Although some of his peers still tend to offer the benefit of the doubt in their decision-making, it is an element that has been effectively outlawed by Fifa. Rules are now rules, like it or not."

Joe Kinnear, the manager of Wimbledon, did not "Referee's common sense has gone out the window," he said. "They're brandishing cards like no tomorrow." He should know, with Wimbledon accounting for 48 bookings and five sendings off in Pre-

miership matches.

There is no clear pattern to the collective records, with little to suggest that clubs have to either bludgeon their way to success or employ similar strong-arm tactics to escape the drop. Blackburn Rovers, the leaders, have 35 bookings and three dismissals — about par for the Premiership course — while Liverpool, in third place, are comfortably the best-behaved, with only 18 yellow cards. Of those striving to avoid relegation, Coventry City have only 25 bookings, albeit alongside three dismissals, and Crystal Palace 33. However, Filbert Street, home of Leicester City, resembles more of a correctional institution after 43 yellows, six reds and seven suspensions from league combat this season.

Individually, Ian Wright, the Arsenal striker, has been most in the wrong, with 12 bookings from all competitions. Steve Bruce, the Manchester United centre back, has ten yellow cards. Tim Sherwood, of Blackburn, and Ken Monkou, from Southampton, have nine.

Yet there does appear to be a grudging acceptance that the end product — a healthier, open and less cynical sport — justifies the means. "Do we want to see a lot of class players sitting in the stands watching matches in January and February?" George Graham, the manager of Arsenal, asked recently, obviously needing no answer. "But we anticipated this at the start of the season, we expected it, so let's get on with it."

Graham has suffered from the Fifa edict more than most, with eight of Highbury's senior players having been handed suspensions, yet he and his ilk are learning to cope. Gerald Ashby, from Worcester, one of the Premiership's leading referees, said: "The former Fifa official said: 'The players and managers deserve a lot of credit. There was a lot of hype and hysteria, which blighted the start, but they quickly realised this wasn't going to go away. It's here to stay and they have accepted it and adapted.'"

"The objective was to promote fair play and I feel we're achieving that. Perhaps there is still a bit of individuality among referees, but I think people appreciate that we are becoming far more consistent in our punishment by and large. The game has changed for the better and we're getting better matches, more goals and more entertainment. I now enjoy turning on my television to watch a football match."

## Burley exploits family tie

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

GEORGE BURLEY, the manager of Ipswich Town, has enough on his plate without having to cope with family interference. On Saturday, Craig Burley, his nephew, did little to maintain harmonious relations by scoring a late equaliser for Chelsea in their 2-2 draw at Portman Road.

Ipswich, 21st of 22 in the FA Carling Premiership, were only three minutes away from their third successive league victory when Burley the Younger popped up to scotch the celebrations of Uncle George. On as a substitute only two minutes earlier, the former Scotland under-21 midfielder player drove home a crisp shot from 25 yards.

"It was nice for Craig, but obviously I'm disappointed for us," Burley Sr said. "Three points would have been very important." Burley Jr remained unabashed. "It doesn't really matter who I score against as long as it's good for the team," he said.

Chelsea, without a win in their six previous Premiership matches, went ahead when Stein volleyed in from a blatantly offside position in the 67th minute. Ipswich levelled after Chapman, their new £70,000 signing from West Ham United, claimed an assist for Slater's first goal of the season, and Wark seemed to have secured another much-needed triumph when clearly dispatching a penalty ten minutes from time.

In the Endleigh Insurance League first division, Bolton Wanderers maintained their steady progress to draw level with Wolverhampton Wanderers in second place, only two points behind Middlesbrough, the leaders. Burden Park is alive at the prospect of Bolton's forthcoming Coca-Cola Cup semi-final with Swindon Town, but Bruce Rioch's players kept their minds on the bread and butter rather than the jam to crush Charlton Athletic 5-1.

Steve Gritt and Alan Curbishley, joint managers of Charlton, are experiencing their most worrying moments since taking over in July 1991, and the enforced sale, over the past three seasons, of £3 million-worth of talent is perhaps catching up with them as they slide towards the basement. Happier times, though, for the new Jimmy Quinn-Mick Gooding managerial combination at Reading. They collected their first win, at the third attempt, since their appointment at Elm Park, a 2-1 success at Burnley pushing them back into the play-off zone.

Middlesbrough's dip in form continued — they needed a late equaliser from Mustoe to draw with Grimsby Town at Ayresome Park — while Charlisle United, runaway leaders of the third division, were also held 1-1. Walling's goal after 68 minutes gave them a share of the spoils away to Rochdale.

## Yeovil celebrate in the mud

BY WALTER GAMMIE

Chelmsford City ..... 2  
Yeovil Town ..... 4

BY WALTER GAMMIE

"DON'T call it off now," a west country voice beseeched, as spectators ducked and dashed through a sluicing shower of icy water running off the roof at the entrance to the turnstile into the stand at Chelmsford City's New Whittle Street ground on Saturday.

Paul Vospers, the referee, having twice inspected the pitch, gave the travelling Yeovil faithful their wish, even though the groundsmen, trainers ankle deep in mud, made little impression as he forlornly forked pools of water.

Victory in the FA Umbro Trophy first-round tie completed Yeovil's joy. Paul Wilson, a tireless mudlark in attack, and Tim Lowe, the former assistant manager, have now won both matches since being given temporary

charge of the team upon the dismissal of Brian Hall. They impressively turned round Yeovil's fortunes on Saturday after an unconvincing first half display. No word was forthcoming as to whether they will get the chance to do it full time, in partnership with Jeff Sherwood, another player, with whom they have applied.

Full results and league tables ..... Page 30

The football was splash-splash, slither stuff that brought "oohs" and "aahs" from the 1,331 crowd as the ball stuck in the mud and players' feet refused to obey instructions. A penalty by Paul Clark, after Vospers had spotted shoving at a corner, gave the Beazer Homes League side the lead. Yeovil's woes increased when Chris White was carried off with damaged ankle ligaments.

In the second half, Yeovil were far more positive. Benbow, the substitute for White, met a corner from Coates with the middle of his forehead and Spencer slid onto a fine flick by Wilson to toe-poke Yeovil ahead. Coates smashed in two further goals. By the time Kane struck a precisely-angled shot in the 87th minute, Chelmsford had been overpowered.

Vospers' judgment had also been confirmed. The rain stopped as the captains shook hands at the start and, by half-time, sunlight was dazzling off the impressive new structure rising at Essex cricket headquarters next door. Pity the poor groundsmen though. His pitch had been turned to a quagmire. The least Chelmsford can do is buy him a pair of Wellington boots.

CHELMSFORD CITY (4-3-3): K. Shoemaker — L. Hunter, D. Jackson, P. Clark (sub: S. Campbell, B. Smith, M. Kean) — R. Coates, M. Kane, E. Martin — D. Perkins, S. Redmond, M. Vospers.

YEVOIL TOWN (4-4-2): P. Wilson — D. Morris, N. Cordell, C. White (sub: I. Benbow, A. P. Harris) — P. Coates, A. Wallace, R. Burns, M. Coates — P. Wilson, M. Spencer. Referee: P. Vospers.

THE PREMIERSHIP CARD GAME			
Club	Bookings	Dismissals	Points
Blackburn Rovers	35	3	35
Liverpool	35	3	35
Manchester United	35	3	35
Sheff Wed	35	3	35
Sheff Utd	35	3	35
Sheff Friars	35	3	35
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# Ferguson offers Everton value for money



NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M. Crossley — D Lytle, B Chatto, C Tier, A Hasland — S Stone, D Phillips, L Bohinen, Woen — B Roy, S Collymore.

ASTON VILLA (4-4-2): M. Botchin — 5 Barnes, M McGraih, U Shlogu, S Teale — 1 Johnson (sub: G Charles, 89mins), 1 Taylor — D Yorks (sub: R Houghton, 87), S Staunton — D Saunders, J Fashanu.

Referee: K Cooper (Pontypool).

**By PETER BALL**

Full results and league tables .... Page 30

**David Miller on a goalless draw against Sheffield Wednesday that added to Kevin Keegan's problems**

If this were an end-of-term report, it would be as difficult



header from close in the box. Smirke glanced over the bar and, with a quarter of an hour remaining, the Newcastle goalkeeper gave the match its only highlight: consecutive saves from Inghesson, Bright and Whittingham that persuaded many Wednesday low-fliers it was time to go home.

**SHEPHERD WEDNESDAY (4-4-3)**  
Woods — D Petracek, P Afferton, C Wetherill  
I Nolan — C Waddie, J Shearidan, C Williams  
Williams, K Inghesson — G Whittingham, R Bright  
Shearidan, D Petracek

**NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-5-1)** P Smirke —  
M Holtby, D Parnock, S Hovey, J Baines  
Mansford — R Fox, R Lee, Luke K. Gillespie  
D. Verrill, L Clark, P Beardsley — I Kinnear

Referee: R. O'Leary.

**By DAVID POWELL**

ARSENAL (4-3-3): D Seaman — L Dixon, A Unwin, S Bould, M Keown — D Hillier (sub: R Parkes, 68), S Schwarz, S Morrow — K Campbell, I Wright (sub: C Kwormys, 84), J Hanson.  
Referee: I McRae

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1	Blackburn	24	55	+33	WWWWL
2	Manchester Utd	25	53	+26	DDWDW
3	Liverpool	24	45	+24	WWWLWL
4	Newcastle	24	42	+16	DLDDD
5	Nottm Forest	25	42	+9	WLWLL
6	Tottenham	24	39	+6	WDWWWW
7	Wimbledon	24	35	+8	WWDWW
8	Leeds	23	34	+2	WLDDD
9	Sheff Wed	25	33	-1	WWDOD
10	Norwich	24	33	-3	LLWLL
11	Arsenal	25	32	+1	WLDDW
12	Chelsea	24	31	-1	LDDDD
13	Manchester City	24	31	-5	LDDDD
14	Aston Villa	25	28	-4	WDDWW
15	Southampton	24	27	-5	LDDDD
16	QPR	23	27	-6	WDDWL
17	Crystal Palace	25	26	-7	DLWLW
18	Everton	24	26	-8	LWLDD
19	Coventry	25	26	-20	LLDLL
20	West Ham	24	25	-8	DLWLL
21	Ipswich	25	20	-21	LLWDD
22	Leicester	24	15	-21	LDLLL
Weekly change		Up	Stayed the same	Down	

nonetheless, he only one point behind Hibernian at the top.

□ David Cooper, the Clydebank and former Scotland winger, is to retire at the end of the season. Cooper, 38, also played for Rangers and Motherwell.

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**Celtic shares, page 41**



the premier division, it becomes fashionable to talk of aspiring to a European place. Duffy knows that such chatter is inane. The lofty target, after all, is set for the same group of players who only inched clear of relegation months before.

nonetheless, he only one point behind Hibernian at the top.

□ David Cooper, the Clydebank and former Scotland winger, is to retire at the end of the season. Cooper, 38, also played for Rangers and Motherwell.

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**Celtic shares, page 41**

briefly, Palace came back into it with Coleman's goal, but Ferguson had the last word as he pounced on Armstrong's error.

**EVERTON (4-4-2):** N. Southall — M. Jackson, D. Watson, D. Unsworth, D. Burrows — J. Ebbett, P. Parkinson, S. Horne, A. Hinchcliffe — P. Rideout, D. Ferguson.

**CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2):** N. Mearns — J. Humphrey, R. Shaw, C. Coleman, D. Gordon — G. Southgate, D. Pitcher, R. Newman, J. Siskind — C. Armstrong, I. Dowie (sub: G.

Humphreys, R Shaw, C Coleman, D Gordon  
— G Southgate, D Pitcher, R Newman, J  
Selako — C Armstrong, I Dowse (sub G  
Nobis, 8000)







# Serenity greets the ultimate athlete reborn



Simon Barnes finds  
Martina Navratilova  
revelling in retirement,  
the contented mistress  
of her own destiny

Something has happened to Martina's face. She is a bit like the widow in Oscar Wilde whose hair turned quite gold from grief. She has retired from tennis and her face is years younger. A sense of care has fallen from her.

Scene — no, not a word you associate with Martina Navratilova. Not a word you associate with many athletes, who devote themselves to the life of strife and whose faces in competition fill and fill again with anguish, rage, delight.

Navratilova rode the switchback of her own emotions for year after year, punching the air with big winners, laughing at incongruities that broke the flow, screaming at the heavens when her skills failed her. Now it is all over, and that utterly unMartina-esque quality of serenity is suddenly apparent.

"My friends said they found the difference in my face within days of retiring," she said. "After my last match, they said they could see my face relaxing." Most top athletes — great retrainers with dreadlocks, Navratilova, never short of interests, concerns and causes beyond her sport, feels a heady gust of freedom. Free to fix her own schedule. Free to do dangerous things like snowboarding and horse-riding. Free to learn Spanish, to work for causes she believes in. She is her own mistress, and just thinking about it is intoxicating.

You cannot help but feel she deserves it. There is a very strong case for claiming her as the ultimate athlete of the past 20 years. Nine Wimbledon singles titles, six of them in a row; 167 singles titles in total, more than 20 years of striving. She brought a singularity to sport not seen in any other competitor. She is neither fully European nor fully American, but somehow combines the frankness of one culture, the depth of reference of another. It seems to be her way: to take two obvious contradictions and to make them complement each other. In many ways, she embodies the best of two worlds, old and new.

In the same way, embodying what was both a contra-



Navratilova relaxes as she faces up to life after tennis. "My friends said they found the difference in my face within days," she says. Photograph: Chris Harris

dition or a strange completeness, she seemed in competition neither male nor female, but both discipline, ambition, strength, fragility, vulnerability. Nobody was stronger-willed, nobody more nervous on the big points. In the stress of big-time play, she was a bewildering combination of granite and marshmallow.

It was she, more than any other athlete, who rewrote the possibilities for women. She went in for hours of self-punishment in the gym at a time when jogging was strictly for male bodybuilders. She presented herself to the world in a lean, honed body, shorn of visible body-fat, hard muscles speaking of a ruthlessness towards herself — something she was never quite able to turn to uncompromising ruthlessness towards her opponent.

Even in retirement, she continues to work out in the gym, five days a week, with sessions up to two hours. "I've been doing it for so long, if I don't work out for a week I

don't feel well," she said. No pain, no serenity, perhaps.

Navratilova has always been more than a sporting phenomenon. She has always lived in the real world. She was the first truly uncompromising female athlete, in terms of fitness, longevity, ambition; she was perhaps the last totally successful professional athlete who has never known the hothouse upbringing, the life of undiluted obsession.

In a sense, she is, or was, the last real person in tennis, perhaps in all big-time sports. She has always had a heart, a most capacious organ, and her mind has been directed her, and she is relishing the thought of more vigorous campaigning as a new life spreads out before her.

She surfs into retirement at 38 on a tide of public goodwill,

cheered to the echo at Wimbledon. You would not have thought that she was the sort to have them cheering in London SW19: the two suburbs are not the easiest places for a stand-up-and-be-counted homosexual.

Navratilova was hated for a while, her opponents cheered, no matter who they were. But it is Wimbledon's way to love

said. "You set up the point just right, you have the open-court volley you would make with your eyes closed ten years ago, and I'm concentrating like hell, and I still miss it. And it's like, God damn it, because you are not exactly perfect, and when you get older you have to be really perfect."

The more years she played, the more she became separate

of people capable of saying "my forehead was going really good", and another with a view — a sane, human and balanced one — on any topic you cared to throw at her.

When the Magic Johnson AIDS story was thrown at her in one post-match conference, she responded by asking what heroic qualities the assembled journalists would find in a woman who, like Johnson, boasted of a thousand sexual partners. A powerful service from the press, but the return left them gawping.

Always a person of the real world, even as a child. She spoke of a promising nine-year-old boy forbidden to play any sport but tennis. Of Venus Williams, the latest American teen phenomenon, educated by her parents, never going to school. "I got my knuckles playing soccer with the boys," she said. "I swam in the river, I chased on the ice when it froze. I always read the newspapers, wanted to know what was going on."

The world of hothouse tennis kids appeals her: the robotic fulfilment of the dreams and ambitions of parents and coaches. "I think it would be fun one day to coach someone who really loves the game," she said, "who plays it for all the right reasons. Who runs to pick up tennis balls because she can't wait to hit the next one." As, no doubt, she once did herself.

She looks for an unfettered joy: a relish of the strife, even of the anguish. A joy that comes from love of the sport, rather than someone else's ambition. Tennis as the central part of a full life as a sport loved this side of obsession.

This is one more contradiction, or if you prefer, one more way in which Navratilova seeks the best of two worlds: of professionalism of approach, preparation, pride, of amateurism in love, amateur meaning nothing less than lover. Not contradictions: complementers.

Competitor, champion, and lots of other things too. She did not spare herself, you see.

**'She rode the switchback of her emotions for years. Now she feels a heady gust of freedom'**

all champions, no matter how uncompromising their lives, when their frailties show. The more the marshmallow Navratilova revealed, the more the public loved her. Wimbledon and Martina: a love affair for the richer for its years of turbulence. And the more the years passed, the more she was loved.

"Getting old sucks," she

from the rest of female tennis players. Women's tennis became a world of teen sensations who have never known anything other than whacking a ball across the court, and Martina: a stray from the real world and, incidentally, a better tennis player than them all.

A host of coaches' creations: one self-made person. A host

## Never mind the ambience, just look at the scoreboard

The complaints common to many of Britain's more important sporting events concern accessibility and comfort. Tickets are highly priced and highly prized venues are poorly sited and hopelessly outdated, the crush is unbearable, the food inedible. The answer, where finance permits, is to build a stadium to suit an event, just as Australia has done for its Open tennis tournament.

The Flinders Park tennis centre opened in 1988 and has been seamlessly accepted by all. The players proclaim their liking for its court surface, proximity to the city and easy atmosphere. They approve of its sense of space, one of many reasons why it is also outstandingly user-friendly to the paying spectator.

What Wimbledon has, of course, which Flinders Park never will, is the air of tradition and the ambience of a garden party. But what it also has is queues, claustrophobia and catering that may pamper the privileged but which mocks the common punter. Wimbledon has some grand plans, but Australia is already showing the way.

The nearest approach to Flinders Park is along the footbridge which passes the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). The first programme seller is there, doing brisk trade with the glossy, 200-page product and pocketing endless tips by dint of the curious nine-dollar (£4.50) cover price. He is out of coins, you are in a good mood: another dollar goes into his pocket.

There is a queue at the gate, though it is unimpressive by Wimbledon standards. Most



Alan Lee appreciates user-friendly facilities at Flinders Park, home of the Australian Open championships

people have bought tickets in advance by the convenient method, used by all Australian sport, of city agencies. It is easy and anti-elitist. It is also inexpensive. There are day and night sessions daily and my centre-court ticket for the day's full play on Thursday cost Aus\$24 (£12). Prices rise through the fortnight, however, and the finals next Sunday would cost you Aus\$70.

What this guarantees is a comfortable, reserved seat with an unrestricted view. The centre court, which doubles as a concert hall, holds 15,000 people. There are 6,000 seats on No.1 court and 3,000 on court two. By next year, there will be two additional show courts. First, though, I head out to court six and a bad experience.

Jeremy Bates is playing Patrick McEnroe and the

small stands are inadequate for the demand. I am shown to a spare seat at the far end of the front row. The seat is filthy and there is a huge puddle at my feet. As this corner, also serves as an unofficial entrance, those squeezing past cannot help but splash me. It is intensely hot and I am perched on the edge of the chair with my feet in the air. Bates's performance notwithstanding, it is soon time to move on.

The wide, bright, carpeted and air-conditioned concourse which circles the main court is blissfully cool. There are machines for hire at Aus\$2 (£1) a time and binoculars cost Aus\$7. The cushion is a good idea if your seat is in the sun, the binoculars if you are above the mid-point of the stands.


First, however, a coffee. Real coffee, from an espresso mach-

ine, not the vile powdered stuff still found at many British venues and, interestingly, also at the MCG. An attractive, varied and well-stocked line of food counters shares the perimeter with merchandise stalls and, for the mandatory, camera-slung Japanese, one-hour film development booths.

I watch Patrick Rafter win, then throw his sweat bands to swooning girls. The computerised scoreboard is a marvel, for if Rafter has won a point at the net it tells me how many times he has done this in the match; similarly, if he misses a backhand or double-faults, etc. It stops only just short of revealing how many times he has scratched his nose. Between games, it also updates the crowd with scores from other the courts. This is all to the good because the centre-court umpire seems to have laryngitis and can barely be heard.

As with all things Australian, the Open is swamped by commercialism. Would you believe that there is an official wine for the tennis? And an official newspaper? Happily, there are also bookmakers on hand and I retire to lunch pondering the value of Todd Martin, at 5-4, to win in straight sets.

After a fresh lasagne and crisp salad, chosen just ahead of beef in blackbean sauce from the Asian counter, I decide against it. Naturally, Martin wins in three. I have an ice-cream on my way out and the girl seller, like all the Flinders staff, smiles broadly. It is that kind of feel-good event. It makes you want to go back for more, rather than sighing with relief that the ordeal is over.

WHAT IT COSTS	
	<b>Centre court</b> <b>£12.00</b>
	<b>Outer court</b> <b>£4.50</b>
	<b>Day session</b> <b>£2.00</b>
	<b>Night session</b> <b>£3.00</b>
	<b>Binoculars</b> <b>£7.00</b>
	<b>Food &amp; drink</b> <b>£2.00</b>
	<b>Coffee &amp; cake</b> <b>£1.50</b>
	<b>Emergency centre</b> <b>£1.00</b>
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If God had meant us to fly, he would have given us wings. Luckily, man has, Christian Dymond reports

# Suspended animation

Even if Gabi White had harboured any doubts about paragliding, the end of the first day at school was enough to dispel them. "It was such good weather and we progressed so quickly that by early evening we were paragliding off a 500 ft hill and landing at the bottom," she said. "It was excellent, so quiet up in the air with all the space around me that I felt just like a bird."

The fitness instructor, 25, took up paragliding eight months ago with her husband, John, because they wanted to do a sport together. They were two out of 1,120 people who booked lessons last year at Sky Systems, one of the biggest such schools in the country.

"We were there a couple of times first just to watch other people paraglide and to talk to the instructors," White said. "It looked fun, and that was part of the appeal, as well as the fact that it's easy to pack up the equipment in a rucksack."

So far, the couple have had eight day-long lessons and are very close to getting their club pilot licence, the second of four paragliding licences you can hold and one that permits you to fly unsupervised.

"One of the days I thought I couldn't get down. I kept going higher and higher in the air," she continued. "But the instructors had warned us about this so I did lots of S-turns [pulling alternately on the left and right steering handles] to lose height. I got a bit frightened, but it hasn't put me off."

Generally, paragliders make use of two types of lift: thermal lift, caused by hot air rising, and dynamic lift, caused by air being deflected upwards from a hill, mountain, sand dune or man-made object.

Competitions involve various tasks, sometimes racing to a goal many miles away, at other times racing round a set route, being sure to photograph on the way what are called "turn points", to prove you have overflown them.

Gabi, who has taken a few gliding lessons, and John, who has done both gliding and parachuting, do a round trip of about 10 miles from their Kent home to Sky Systems. She believes you need commitment if you have to travel that sort of distance and then wait around if the weather is not right. "It's very exciting, though," she said. "I'm looking forward to doing some cross-country flights and going on paragliding holidays."

For five or six months of the

## SPORT FOR ALL



What goes up, stays up

year, Patrick Holmes has the world at his feet. For the British paragliding champion, that is the amount of time he spends globe-trotting and competing every year. The sport has taken him to Japan, Mexico, Nepal, India, Brazil, the United States, South Korea (where his sponsor, Edel, is based), and many countries in Europe, although compared to a number of other sporting champions and considering the distances involved, his is a life on a relatively low budget.

Sometimes I get expenses and prize money, but I reckon I spend £4,000 to £5,000 myself a year as well," Holmes said. "One of the reasons I took up the sport was to travel, so wherever I go I usually do a bit of sightseeing, using local transport and staying in cheap hotels."

Holmes works in Dent, Cumbria, at a firm called Lyon Equipment, a supplier of caving, climbing and paragliding gear. Four years ago, he gave up a job as a mineral surveyor to spend more time on paragliding, a sport he was

introduced to three years before that in the French Alps by his brother, Stuart.

Another brother, Philip, was a paraglider too, but in September 1993, at the age of 25, he was killed while paragliding in America. Weather conditions changed quickly and he was blown into a hill.

His death led Holmes to give up the sport for a while, but he was back competing in the World Cup in Brazil early last year. At the initial stage of the competition, he was lying second (placements for the individual competitors are worked out over a number of events dotted around the world during the year), and eventually came 31st. In 1993, he had finished tenth.

"After Philip's death I was a lot more cautious and was ready to give up competition completely," Holmes said. "I had broken my pelvis some months before in France when I was dragged on to some rocks after landing with another competitor who had got caught up with me. But paragliding gives me such a buzz and it's something I've done well at, so it became difficult to stop."

As a teenager in the Lake District, Holmes, 31, was a keen windsurfer, walker and climber. Now, as paragliding champion, he is a household name, albeit in a fairly small number of households. Membership of the British Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association (BHFA) is about 8,000. Just over half are paragliders.

Last year, the British championship was held over three legs, one in Wales, another in the Yorkshire Dales and the last in Spain, where the flying weather is better. Poor weather led to the cancellation of flying in the Dales.

"I've free-flown across country for nearly a hundred miles, and it's very exhilarating," Holmes said. "But in competitions there's an added sense of excitement. You can pick many different routes to get to a certain point and use your skill and judgment to get there faster than others. You're constantly changing tactics in the air, depending on the terrain, the weather and how high you are. You're also using other competitors as indicators of what's happening around you."

"Someone, for instance, might be climbing fast, so you know they're in an area of good lift."

From March 8 to 26, Holmes will be joining the



Sky Systems manager Gary Cook teaches Gabi White more of the ins and outs — and ups and downs — of paragliding

British team (to date, four men and a woman) at the world championships in Japan, a biennial team event. After that, he can concentrate on the British championships, which start in May, and the World Cup, which this year will take individual contestants to Italy, Switzerland, France, Spain and Austria.

Another year, another round of flying the world.

## Treat a friend to a meal for 20p

There may be no such thing as a free lunch — but with *The Times* you can take a friend for a meal that will cost the same as a copy of Britain's best quality daily newspaper. *The Times* has got together with Transmedia, the international restaurant card, to offer one meal for 20p when two or more people dine, as an introduction to a scheme that could also save you 25 per cent every time you eat out.

*Times* readers who already hold a Visa, Delta or MasterCard can participate, and enjoy not only the 20p meal but also six months' free trial membership of Transmedia (normally £35 a year). A worldwide organisation, Transmedia pre-purchases food and wine credits at special prices from participating restaurants. When a meal is bought with the card, the savings are passed on to the member. If, for example, your total restaurant bill for



a meal for four is £100 (excluding VAT and tip), £25 will appear as a credit against that amount when you receive your card statement. It's like getting the fourth meal free.

Why not try the daily changing menu of international cuisine, at Chesham's on Pont Street, Sheraton Belgravia, 20 Chesham Place, SW1, with more than 450 participating UK restaurants offering every type of fare the choice is yours.

### HOW TO APPLY

Today we print the last of six 20p dining tokens. Send any four of the six tokens which have appeared with the application form to the address below. In order to obtain your £20 meal for 20p you must have a Transmedia card. You are only eligible for a Transmedia card if you already hold a valid Visa, MasterCard or Delta card. The 20p meal must be taken before the end of February, 1995.

### Terms and conditions

● Readers wishing to take advantage of the 20p meal for 20p offer must send four of the six tokens which appear in *The Times* between January 17 and 23 with their application.

● Should you choose to continue your membership after the six-month free period the annual fee is £35.

● Card holders may cancel at any time, in writing, and by returning the card to Transmedia.

● To participate readers must have a valid Visa, MasterCard or Delta Card and pass a standard name check of your account through normal purchase authorisation.

● The Transmedia Card entitles holders to a 25 per cent saving on food and beverages (excluding VAT and tips) in participating restaurants, listed in the directory posted to each member every six weeks.

● To use your card select a restaurant from the directory. Present your Transmedia Card at the end of the meal and sign for the full amount. Transmedia will charge your underlying Visa, MasterCard or Delta Card for the full amount of the bill and process a corresponding credit for 25 per cent.

● Participating readers who use their card for the first time before February 28 for a meal with two or more people will receive a further £10.00 — a full meal for 20p.

● Application forms with four differently numbered tokens attached should be sent to: *The Times*/Transmedia Promotion, 11 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LB.

● Applicants who wish to apply for the Transmedia Card without tokens can do so by ringing 0800 716591.

● Please allow seven days for receipt of your card.

### RONALD FAUX

● The British Gliding Association, Kimberley House, Vaughan Way, Leicester LE1 4SE (01533 510251) provides a list of clubs offering instruction. Lasham Gliding Society, Lasham Airfield, Alton, Hants GU24 5SS (01256 381322)



Out of its element on the ground, a glider awaits the moment when it will soar into the near-silent thermal world

When I leave the ground faster than a Space Shuttle. A mile of steel cable, clipped to the glider's leg and wound by a distant winch, launches us into a climb steep. At 1,400 ft this semicircle of extra-terrestrial takeoff ends abruptly. The cable releases and the mechanical bond is broken. We slip into the whispering, predatory world of the soaring glider, stalking the sky for rising air.

The pro is invisible, capricious and keeps the hunter constantly alert, scanning the sky for clues. In the rear seat, Clive Thomas, an instructor with Lasham Gliding Society, disarms a patch of decaying cumulus overhead as "past its sell-by date." We nose towards a cloud with a steel-grey base and assume a turn by slow explosions of thermal air.

The glider, a K13, accelerates and the whispering becomes a shuffling rush. Control is few and simple: a stick to determine pitch and tilt and pedals to swing the rudder. Co-ordination of hand, eye and foot to produce an elegantly balanced turn is the elusive goal. Success is indicated by a short length of low-tech string fluttering on the canopy from string vertical and the turn is properly balanced, rising as the glider's shimmering across the sky. Instruments indicate speed, height and the rate at

## Gliding away from it all

which the glider is either climbing or descending. The largest cloud casts a grey shadow and the glider slows under it. We have dropped 200 ft from the launch, but we are upwind of the airfield and the K13 loses only one foot for every 28 feet of forward progress: a calculation of which to be mindful when there is no engine.

The glider vibrates slightly in a patch of rough air, outer marker of a thermal. Rising air lifts the left wingtip. "Dig into that," Thomas says and the glider's left wingtip dips into the invisible uprush, the horizon spinning madly with seven or eight knots of lift indicated. The base of the thermal is narrow and drifts with the speed and direction of the wind so the target is not only invisible, it moves.

Other gliders spot our success and join the thermal, lower down, spiralling upwards in the same direction. Other clues to rising air may be swallows feeding on a column of insects drawn into a strong thermal. Birds of prey are often reliable markers, although a buzzard or

golden eagle may follow a glider into a thermal, pilot and bird eyeing one another as they climb. Patches of dark, heat-absorbent earth, stubble fields, south-facing slopes, the summit edge of a cloud bank: all may trigger a thermal.

Gliding is long-established and highly developed. It competes now with hang gliding and, more recently, paragliding. At Lasham, the country's largest gliding centre, courses costing between £260 and £330 a week or £110 for a weekend are run almost year-round with no more than four pupils per instructor. One-to-one training can be had for £50 a day plus the cost of the winch or aero-tow launch. This option overcomes the frequent criticism that training means hours on the ground for minutes in the air. Even so, gliding is a distinctly social sport with every pilot dependent on a ground crew of other pilots for every flight.

It is not unusual in good conditions for a mid-range glider to fly 200 miles or more, or soar above 20,000 ft. The fascination of gliding is that it obliges the pilot to understand

every nuance of the clouds and to squeeze every inch of lift from them.

Basic gliders, solid and purposeful-looking, may be bought for less than £3,000. Others are elegant structures with slender wings spanning 60ft or more that will glide 60 miles from 5,000ft without benefit of thermal. Some have pop-up engines, and these high-performance machines may cost £100,000 or more.

The thermal has lifted us to cloud base at 5,000 ft, and grey mist threatens to engulf the glider. There is enough rising air about to hold us aloft for hours, but others on the course must be growing impatient for their turn. The nose dits towards the airfield and we move in to land.

The glider picks up speed, giving more control, and we bank into final approach. Air brakes — wing slats that reduce the angle of glide — allow the pilot to touch down with great precision. The keel scrapes briefly across the ground, then there is silence.







# School boxers back in the ring

By JOHN GOODBODY

BOXING has been introduced into the curriculum at a state school for the first time for at least 20 years.

However, although the Liverpool school is practising a non-contact form of the sport, the move has still been criticised by the British Medical Association (BMA) as "an unhealthy development".

A pilot scheme of the "Kid Gloves" project has begun at Croxteth Community School and is likely to spread to other schools in Liverpool, with indirect financial backing from the local council and the Government.

David Knox and Steve Stewart, PE teachers at Croxteth, are delighted with the success



of the teaching of boxing skills, such as the correct stance and guard, and the punching against pads.

The activity takes place twice a week during curriculum time and is taught by qualified coaches from outside the school.

Knox said: "Since we introduced the boxing at the start of this academic year, it has been most successful. We teach a variety of sports here and we hope to ensure that everyone leaves school wanting to take part in some sort of physical activity, from which they will benefit as adults."

"We aim to whet boys' appetites. If they are interested in the sport, we direct them to a suitable local club, where they can go outside curriculum time."

This term, 55 boys are practising boxing in three different classes, under an arrangement backed by the Government's Sportsmatch scheme, with two local sponsors, GTB Demolition Ltd and George Treble, and the Liverpool City Council.



Kevin Kennedy, left, and Chris O'Sullivan are taught non-contact boxing. Photograph: Howard Barlow

Paul King, the council's boxing development officer in a city where there are 30 amateur boxing clubs, said:

"The boys have been happy and the schools have been happy. We have even heard girls' voices saying that they should be given the opportunity to try the sport."

Last summer, Liverpool council held an extra-curricular "come-and-try-it" scheme, attracting 450 boys, 50 of whom are now competing and a further 50 are boxing for recreation.

The schools' syllabus starts with teaching boys the basics of the stance, guard and footwork. Next comes jabbing to the head and body, with the appropriate defence. Then the

use of the rear hand and defences against its use are taught.

The fourth stage is combination punching and the final section is flair and self-expression.

Details of the scheme were

"Since there is no contact and provided there are adequate safety precautions, this activity is seen as more acceptable. However, we do hope that the boys and their parents are sensibly counselled by the teacher about joining suitably

brought the withdrawal from the curriculum. Dr Jeffrey Cundy, the joint author of the BMA's last report on boxing, published in 1993, accepted that the activity in Liverpool was non-contact.

"However, we feel that children should still not be introduced to boxing because they will then be encouraged to take up an activity which is uniquely dangerous when actual contact takes place," he said.

Cundy, a member of the BMA's board of science, added: "There are a whole range of sports, which will teach the discipline of boxing without the dangers. We see this introduction to schools as an unhealthy development."

published in the autumn edition of the *Journal of the Physical Education Association (PEA)*. None of its 7,000 members wrote criticising the inclusion of boxing on a school curriculum.

Peter Harrison, the general secretary of the PEA, said:

Schools results and photograph Page 32

## Hannah seals Bablake's demise

By ALIX RAMSAY

IT WAS a chill, damp wind that blew through the Midlands finals of the British Aerospace national school-girls hockey championships in Coventry yesterday as Bromsgrove beat Bablake 1-0. Fielding more chapped knees than you could shake a hockey stick at, the 12 finalists met to renew old rivalries and sort out who was to go through to the national finals in March.

The competition between Bromsgrove and Dame Alice Harpur is fierce: last year, Bromsgrove lost on penalties to Dame Alice Harpur in the semi-finals and so had a point to prove.

Meeting in the semi-finals, it was Bromsgrove's turn for revenge, holding the old enemy to a 0-0 draw and then cruising past them 5-1 in the penalty shoot-out.

Meanwhile, Bablake, the home side, were making their way to the final. Coached by Sue Sutton, the England under-18 team manager, they won their group with ease and then overpowered St Paul's 2-1 in the semi-finals.

Bablake's loyalties are split between hockey and netball, so a place in the final was, for Sutton, a sign that they had played up to and beyond their potential in the competition.

Bromsgrove's strength has been built over the past six years. Rather than producing just one team in each age group, the coaching staff — among them Craig Parnham, from Stourport, the national league team — have created large training squads at every level giving them greater strength in depth.

Add to that Nathalie Hannah, from Sutton Coldfield, and Katie O'Riley, both national under-16 players, Jennie Bimson, now in the England under-21 squad and Martina Samwer, an exchange student and member of the German national team, and they are a force to be reckoned with.

In the final, they flexed their muscles, had most of the play, and went through courtesy of a second-half goal from Hannah.

## Halcyon days when boxers were just like us

SHORTLY before midnight on Saturday, I was watching the pre-fight antics of a Yemeni-Yorkshire super-bantamweight dressed in trunks of simulated leopardskin. From his appearance in the hall to entering the ring, where his hapless Mexican opponent was doing neck exercises as if his life depended on them, took a full four minutes. He walked and stopped; side-stepped, preened himself, moved this way and that to enable each millimetre of his lissom 8st 10lb frame to be seen by all.

There was a 45-second wait as he stood outside the ring, his ego would he jump, dive, somersault, levitate... nothing less was an option. He was never going to slip between the ropes; he is no ordinary man.

The hyperactive, narcissistic Mr Naseem Hamed, of Sheffield, has so much talent, such charismatic athleticism, speed and strength, that it will be fascinating to see him matched against someone of real quality for a meaningful "world" title.

Armando Castro began by being warned for praying after the bell and spent the next ten minutes pretending that he was not being hit, then pretending that he was not being hit as hard as he was being hit. It was a truculent, unlovely deceitful performance by a boxing has-been who will find it hard to locate further meal tickets... and it made me yearn for the days when boxers were people like the rest of us, only stronger and fitter. I have sympathy for Caesar's preferred option of "having men about me who are not super-bantamweights".

Henry Cooper was like the rest of us, through stronger and fitter and not a bantamweight. In the ring, he wore black trunks, walked straight to his corner, listened to the referee then fought. No hype. Big kisses from his wife, Albina, when he

won and, after the bout, he talked to people: "It was me left hook what his chin bounced off of."

In the fullness of time, I shall try to interview Mr Hamed; that will be different from those times I had with Enery — and not just because of the difference in their weights.

I recall a lunch at a pub in Welling — where he stayed while in training in the days when boxers were advised to preserve their strength by sexual abstinence: before Tyson. Present were Jim

CLEMENT FREUD



Afterthoughts

Wicks — Cooper's 71-year-old manager — the heavy-weight champion and me. "Clay is the big ambition; stands to reason," Enery said. Wicks left the room. "Gone to have a house to let," Enery said. "You know, bet." Two minutes later, he came back. "I done my money."

We had salad and soup, 10oz fillets of plaice followed by 1lb steaks, then cheese and fruit. We drank red Burgundy.

What makes you angry? I asked him. "When I get hit in the goolies" — and when I left he gave me a bag of peaches from his greengrocer's shop. "They eat nice; five for half a crown."

Have you made plans for when you win Saturday's fight? He looked up from lolling super into his coffee: "I'll sell peaches at six for half a crown." He grinned. I never saw Hamed grin.

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by NICK DAWS

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# How to work in partnership

**Hugh Wright on the role of the independent school and the importance of its place in the education system.**

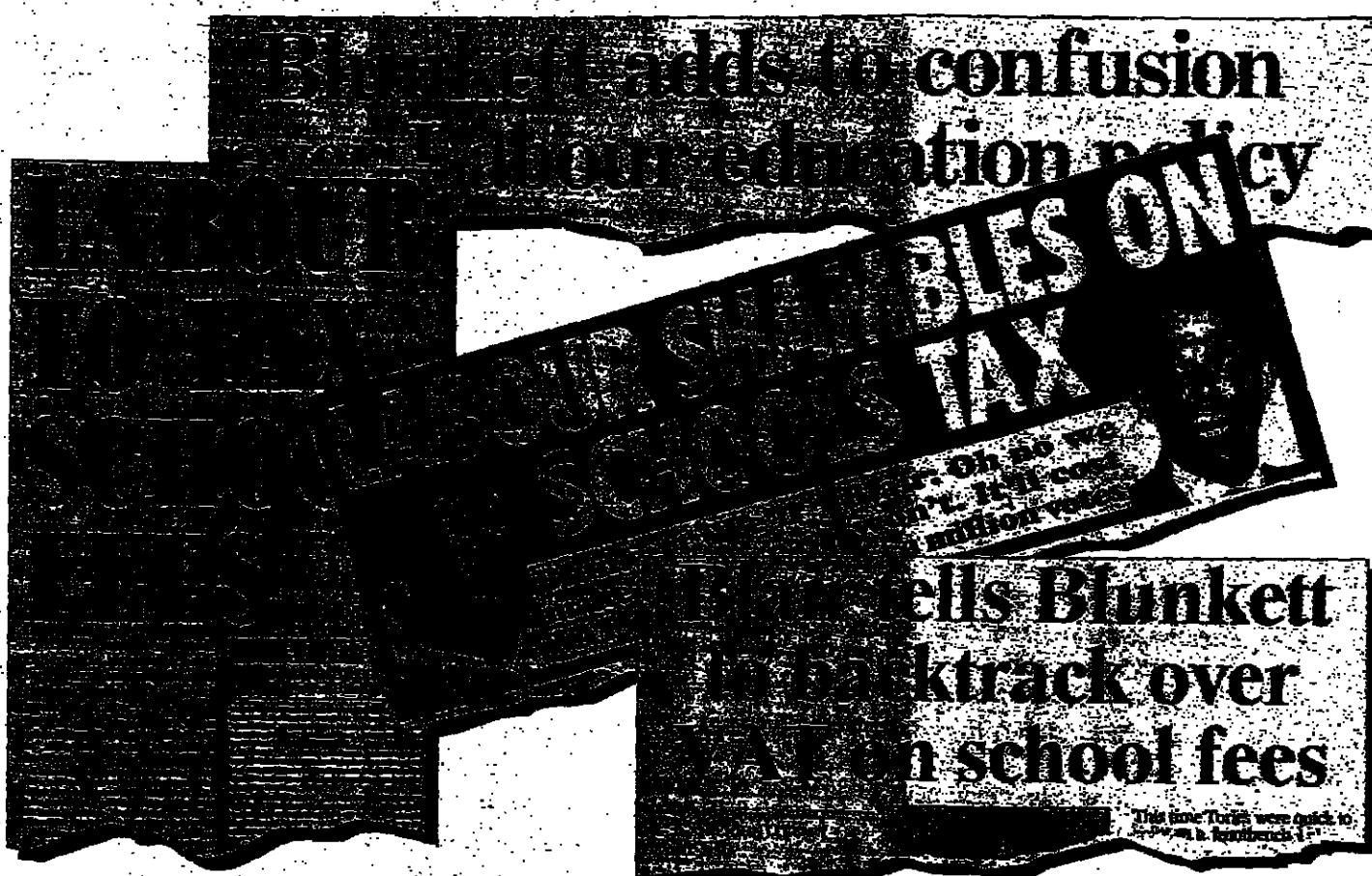
Politicians, like everyone else, must be realistic to survive. This is nowhere more true than in the sphere of education. To be a realist you need to see clearly and not invent facts. You also need to see the overall situation as well as the details. Above all, you must free yourself from prejudice and from a predisposition to impose opinion gained in the past onto what is happening in the present.

What then are the present realities in education? There are certain things that never change. Foremost among these should be standards and then the need for partnership to achieve them. Partnership in families and between families and schools count for more than anything else. But back to the politicians. They need to respect parents' wishes and the needs of schools to meet them.

Let us consider independent schools. They, too, are an integral part of the educational provision of the country. Judging by the MORI polls, the vast majority of parents of all political persuasions would like them to be available as a choice for their children. Here, too, the need for realism comes in.

Independent schools are now, and always have been, anxious to play their much-needed role alongside other types of schools, of which there are many. Independent schools have a future in this, and an important one, partly because they are independent. They are a part of the national framework, but not answerable in the same way as maintained schools to local and central authority and they derive the majority of their funding from parents. Put simply, they are economical. Independence works because it motivates. The situation in all schools is now very different from what it was. The virtue of independence has been recognised. Local management is, after all, a form of it.

This is why partnerships can be developed; partnerships between government and schools and be-



In the debate over the independent sector, are politicians taking account of the need for government and schools to work together?

tween the schools themselves, both locally and nationally. The associations of heads and teachers are crucial. Relations between the associations of heads have never been stronger. The Secondary Heads' Association has a very broad membership and works closely with the independent schools' associations. Our policies, for example on 14 to 19 education, are saying the same things.

All of this is very promising for the future. I trust that when Labour and the Liberal Democrats finalise their plans, they will listen to what these partnerships of schools are saying. The early signs are good. A willingness to meet and discuss is there. It is to be hoped that realism will be the order of the day in all these discussions.

The Assisted Places Scheme deserves nothing but praise. It achieves all of the aims set out above, by opening independent schools to the widest possible spectrum of parents. We hope it can be extended so that still more open access will be available to the

independent sector. As I have said, realism means seeing clearly and not inventing facts. Applied to the scheme, that means seeing that it costs the State little or no more to educate the children in the scheme in independent schools than if they were in the maintained sector.

It also means accepting that all parents of children in independent schools have paid through taxation for their children's education once. The fees they pay over that are a saving to the State, which in fact could not afford to educate all of them itself without putting at least £1 billion into the education budget.

Other countries in the European Community have different traditions of partnership with their independent schools; none pay as little to them as we do. This means hard facts have to be faced as to how this present enormous saving to the Treasury can be evaluated and the financial contributions of the independent sector recognised. If it were built into the thinking of the planners of all parties, the sector could be used more widely to

great profit. As I say, let us look at the facts, or the realities of the situation and not pretend the facts are otherwise.

But above all, let us see what we can achieve for the benefit of all. With the demand for education of all kinds increasing and with the numbers of full-time students growing, we all have a part to play.

I trust we can do it together. Places in good schools are always at a premium, never more so than now. Such participation and partnership is nothing new. For example, in Birmingham, as in many other places up and down the country, relationships of long-standing exist and flourish already. Let the Foundation of King Edwards in Birmingham serve as an example: there are many others. Its endowments have been used for more than 400 years to foster education for all sectors of the community often with strong support from the Government, as now. Two of its schools are independent, five grant-

maintained. They work in partnership and friendly rivalry. I act as the headmaster of that Foundation and can witness to the effectiveness of these links.

Prejudice needs to be set aside. It is simply not helpful for anyone to say "going to an independent school is a privilege. If we limit the access to these schools there will be more for everyone else". We all agree, a good school should be a right, not a privilege, and there are many good schools of all kinds. If independent schools in particular do not achieve high standards they do not survive in a very competitive market place. That is one of the things that makes them a safe choice. If they are viewed like that and without political prejudice, they can offer a very wide spectrum of opportunity to a very wide range of children.

These are the facts. I trust politicians of all parties will recognise what can be done, if we work in partnership.

• The author is the Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference.

## Survival under a socialist government

### New era for French schools

For the first time, the French Catholic hierarchy has appointed a layman to run its schools. In the past, the secretary-general of Catholic education has been a priest or bishop. Pierre Daniel is a Marseilles businessman and, more significantly, former head of a powerful parents' association for independent schools.

The Catholic Church is responsible for 95 per cent of all of France's independent schools: one in every six pupils. M Daniel's appointment is a tacit acknowledgement of the small role religion now plays in Catholic schools.

Just ten years ago, as head of UNAPEL (Union nationale des associations de parents d'élèves de l'enseignement libre), M Daniel was a key figure in the fight to prevent President Mitterrand fulfilling his promise to bring independent schools more into line with state ones and creating "a single, lay unified education system".

Traditionally, the conflict over independents has been between their Right-wing champions and the Left but, to the Government's dismay, opposition to the Government's plans came from all sides. Coolly in command of his troops, M Daniel marshalled parents into a million-strong demonstration in Paris which finally brought down the Government.

His lack of a dog collar will not worry parents. Few teachers are ordained nowadays. There is more religion in the average British state school than in those of Catholic France. State schools are not allowed to teach it at all — nor hold assemblies. Catholic schools, all of which are under contract to the state, may give only voluntary classes in religion on the understanding that they do not interfere with the demands of the national curriculum.

Compared with independents in the UK, they are generously subsidised. Teachers' salaries and, in most cases, running costs are paid by the state. The latter also recognises their right to a loosely defined "specific character". Marie-Michele le Bret, spokeswoman for the Catholic Schools, said that this

means that as well as teaching religion and moral values, individual schools may choose to follow the example of perhaps Montessori, Piaget or Freinet.

Opinion polls suggest that parents choose independents because they see them as more caring than state schools, where many teachers believe their responsibility is solely with their pupils' academic ability. Hardly any choose them for religious reasons.

When M Mitterrand ends his mandate in April, he will be leaving behind a flourishing independent sector. Far from crushing it, M Mitterrand has made it stronger and more popular than ever. In the avid public debate over its right to exist which he has

aroused, researchers have highlighted its advantages over state schools.

Gabriel Langouet and Alain Léger, at the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, who can't be accused of having an axe to grind for Catholic

schools, say that parents consider independent schools a safe haven when they feel their local state school is not up to scratch or when their child is doing badly.

The research has also shown that working-class children who have been educated entirely in an independent school get better results than those in the state sector. They are very much a minority, despite the fact that French independent schools are far less elitist than British ones. Fees vary enormously. According to Madame Le Bret in rural areas they range from a modest FF180 (about £22) to FF1,200 a year but are much higher in large towns.

Lower-income families are not expected to pay the full amount. In spite of the concessions, most pupils come from middle-class families and ethnic minorities are rare (an attraction for some parents). "We are not as democratic as we would like," Mme le Bret says, "but it's because we have not been able to build schools in the new towns and suburbs where immigrants are concentrated."

MARY FOLLAIN

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Closing Date for receipt of applications February 28, 1995.

## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

### CENTRE FOR HEALTH ECONOMICS SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER

(Ref: 3/3398)

The University wishes to make two appointments of health economists with experience of developing countries to strengthen a team involved in postgraduate teaching, research and advisory work. The appointments will initially be for a fixed term of three years.

Salary will be within the Lecturer or Senior Lecturer salary scale (£14,756 - £30,533 per annum), depending on qualifications and experience.

The successful candidates will be expected to contribute to the management and teaching of at least one post experience course and to undertake overseas assignments either as part of a consultancy team assembled by York Health Economics International, or as a subcontractor with partner agencies. Willingness to spend a considerable proportion of working time (up to 20 weeks annually) on overseas assignments is an essential qualification for these appointments.

### RESEARCH FELLOWS/SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

(Ref: 3/6564)

Applications are invited for research posts to work in the Centre for Health Economics. Two of the posts are funded by the Department of Health and the Northern-Yorkshire R & D Directorate. Applicants should either have appropriate post graduate qualifications, ideally with some research experience or be researchers in applied economics and applied econometrics who have not previously worked in the health/health care field. Candidates wishing to be considered for secondments are encouraged to apply.

The appointment will be made for 2 to 3 years in the first instance (with rolling review). Salary will be at an appropriate point on the research staff salary scales (£13,941 - £35,076 per annum) depending on qualifications and experience. It is anticipated that at least one appointment will be made in the upper salary range.

Potential candidates are encouraged to discuss their interest in these posts informally with the Centre Director (Professor Alan Maynard: 01904 433645) or the Deputy Director (Ken Wright: 01904 433643).

For further details of the above posts and how to apply, please contact the Personnel Office, University of York, Heslington, YORK, YO1 5DD, quoting the appropriate reference number. Closing date for applications is 3rd February 1995.

THE UNIVERSITY of York



## UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

### Development Office Development Executive (Major Gifts)

Academic-related Administrative Grade 5:

Salary £27,018 - £30,533 p.a.

The Development Office, as it moves into a post-Campaign fund raising mode, wishes to appoint a Development Executive to a newly-created post. This officer will report directly to and will act as deputy to the Director of the Development Office. The role will include management responsibility for co-ordinating the work of the solicitation staff within the office. Fund raising (voluntarily or otherwise) is highly desirable. The job requires tact and sensitivity to the needs and interests of fund raising prospects together with the capacity to follow through projects through adversity.

Candidates must show an understanding of Oxford University, its mission and its need for external (non-governmental) funding in order to set the work of the Development Office in its proper context. The job requires the ability to manage relatively senior staff within the office. Fund raising (voluntarily or otherwise) is highly desirable. The job requires tact and sensitivity to the needs and interests of fund raising prospects together with the capacity to follow through projects through adversity.

### Development Executive (Legacy Work)

Academic-related Administrative Grade 2:

Salary £16,191 - £20,953 p.a.

The Development Office, as it moves into a post-Campaign fund raising mode, wishes to appoint a Development Executive to an existing post. The officer will be part of a team of nine solicitation officers, backed by support staff including data base and research teams. She will have responsibility for identifying potential legacies, producing materials in support of the programme, being familiar with the legal and tax implications involved in charitable bequests and providing some support for the annual giving section of the team.

Candidates should show an understanding of (or an interest in) learning about Oxford University, how it functions and what its financial needs are. The post demands tact and sensitivity and, therefore, good interpersonal skills. A good deal of field work (possibly abroad) will be involved. The post might suit a relatively recent graduate, ideally (though not necessarily) from Oxford.

### Development Executive

Academic-related Administrative Grade 2:

Salary £16,191 - £20,953 p.a.

Oxford University Development Office, as it moves into a post-Campaign fund raising mode, wishes to appoint an additional Development Executive to manage specific fund raising projects. The officer will be part of a team of nine solicitation officers, backed by support staff including data base and research teams. She will have responsibility for working with the academic staff concerned with the projects, and in seeking out and involving potential donors. The work will involve producing material that will help to promote the projects and servicing committees concerned with them.

Candidates should show an understanding of (or an interest in) learning about Oxford University, how it functions and what its financial needs are. The post demands tact and sensitivity and, therefore, good interpersonal skills. A good deal of field work (possibly abroad) will be involved. The following attributes could be useful but are not essential: Oxford University experience, a scientific background, an honours degree.

Further particulars for the above three posts are available from the Deputy Registrar (Administration), University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD (Tel. 0865 270003), to whom applications, including a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, should be sent by 30 January 1995. Interviews will be held during the week of 6th February 1995, and candidates are asked to note that in their diaries.

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# Can larger classes be avoided?

The squeeze on education budgets has aroused school governors to fury, reports John O'Leary

Forecasts of thousands of job losses in state schools have become as much a part of the new year as the January sales or shocks in the FA Cup. Education authorities and opposition MPs always insist that this will be the year the chickens come home to roost from previous under-funding.

Every year, it seems, the money is found from somewhere to stave off disaster. Class sizes may rise a little and more teachers take early retirement, but the threatened wave of redundancies does not materialise. So are the politicians crying wolf again in the current budget round?

Certainly, there are differences this year. Pupil numbers are rising and it will be more difficult for schools to make savings to allow for inflation, even at its present low level.

It is also unusual to have the Education Secretary making many of the same points, albeit in the intended privacy of a Cabinet bidding process. Although Gillian Shephard won more money for education after sending the letter leaked to the *Times Educational Supplement* last week, her warnings of job losses and increased class sizes must stand in the light of the eventual settlement.

With pupil numbers increasing by 1.5 per cent and teachers' pay likely to keep pace with inflation, a 1.1 per cent rise in overall education spending must require cuts. Teachers' pay is by far the biggest item on a school budget, and is often the only one that can yield the savings necessary to balance the books.

Many schools have built up contingency reserves to enable them to cope with years such as this. But for the majority, even if early retirements or non-replacements of staff can keep redundancies at bay, the result must be larger classes.

Whatever her own views on the link between class size and the quality of education, Mrs Shephard knows that parents see



Children at Coleham Primary School, Shrewsbury, where governors say they will resign rather than implement a £40,000 cut

this indicator as of paramount importance. Her letter recognised the political significance of an issue which has always been seen as a recruiting standard for independent schools and which is becoming one of the main talking points in areas where budget cuts are being proposed in the state sector.

In Oxfordshire, for example, local government capping has left schools facing a 6.3 per cent budget cut. Joe Hannigan, an Oxford parent who has corresponded with Mrs Shephard about the likely impact on his children's two schools, says: "I think this is a real hot potato for the Government. There are meetings arranged in practically every school I know of because parents are burning with anger."

Martin Roberts, the head teacher of Cherwell School, in Oxford, is having to cope with a cut of £135,000. "The situation is many times worse than anything I have faced in 14 years as a head. I never dreamt that I would be thinking of

making staff redundant, but this does not look like a one-off problem. We will certainly have to have bigger classes and postpone some important projects."

Oxfordshire is in a worse position than most because it dipped into its reserves to cushion school budgets last year. But the National Association of Head Teachers puts the average cut currently proposed by education authorities at 4 per cent, assuming a pay increase for teachers in line with inflation.

Northumberland, for example, is planning a 4.5 per cent cut. Chris Tipler, the county's chief education officer, who tackled Eric Forth, the Education Minister, on the subject at his association's weekend conference, said: "This has come on top of a series of dreadful years, and we cannot shield the schools. People will muddle through because they will just have to cope in the end, but even parts of the country that have been better treated in previous years are feeling the squeeze now."

Norfolk, where Mrs Shephard once chaired the education committee, is one of many authorities whose spending is capped at 0.5 per cent above last year's figure. Although special efforts are being made to protect school budgets, keeping the cut below 2 per cent, the result is 8 per cent cuts in adult education, school meals and the youth and community service, and 12 per cent less for discretionary awards to students.

Only Birmingham is promising to increase school budgets in real terms. Last year, an education commission chaired by Professor Ted Wragg, of Exeter University, was highly critical of the authority's previous spending record. Although a budget is yet to be finalised, Theresa Stewart, the council leader, has assured head teachers that schools will be given the "highest priority".

Elsewhere, however, governors

will be left over the next few weeks to grapple with depressing figures. Some are reacting with fury. Those at Coleham Primary School, in Shrewsbury, have threatened to resign en masse, rather than implement a £40,000 cut. Others in Oxfordshire are planning to set illegal deficit budgets.

Tony Travers, who heads a research centre at the London School of Economics, says it is impossible to estimate the impact of the current settlement because local government funding for education is not earmarked. Teacher numbers have held up through previous spending rounds, but 1995-6 promises to be the "toughest year ever" for schools.

The good news for Mrs Shephard is that few will want to admit the full scale of their problems. Mr Tipler says: "Schools will cover it up because, in the market place, who is going to send their kids to a school which the head says is falling apart?"

## Good reasons to read old rhymes

The great British narrative poem is unknown to most schoolchildren

SOME of the most approachable and memorable poems in English are those which tell stories. And the best ones were, on the whole, written some time ago. How lamentable then that today's schoolchildren are exposed to so little fine, traditional narrative poetry.

Every child loves a story, so why on earth are unforgettable poems such as *Hiccup, The Lady of Shalott*, and *The Highwayman* so often ignored in favour of either "poetry" which is banal, smutty (and therefore, unaccountably perceived as being just the thing for children) or just blankly obscure and second rate.

Consider tiny, trivial ditties whose popularity is bound to be passing, such as "Love is white, pants are blue, Love is a pink nightdress, still slightly warm / Love is when you leave at dawn / Love is... (Adrian Henri) or "Down behind the dustbin / I met a dog called Sid / He said he didn't know me / But I'm pretty sure he did" (Michael Rosen). Both are widely anthologised for school use, are known to millions of schoolchildren and are mildly entertaining for a few seconds. Fine to read casually but they don't need to be "taught". They do nothing to stretch and develop knowledge, understanding or vocabulary. They offer no growth potential — only superficial transitory amusement.

Such poems should not be allowed to displace from the curriculum time-honoured delights such as the sensuality of Keats's *Madeline* on the Eve of St Agnes — "And still she slept an azure-lidded sleep / In blanched linen, smooth, and lavender'd"; or the delicious comedy of Cowper's *John Gilpin* trying to carry bottles of wine on a runaway horse: "Down ran the wine into the road / Most piteous to be seen / Which made the

horse's flanks to smoke / As they had basted been."

The rote set in so long ago that, notwithstanding the national curriculum's emphasis on pre-20th century literature, I doubt that there are now many teachers in mainstream schools who know these poems themselves — hence the inevitable recourse to what is easy and "accessible".

Last year the choral society to which I belong tackled a rather nice setting by Parry of *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*. The music was quite easily mastered but, oh dear, such a fuss about the words. Browning's most famous poem seemed to be completely new to over half the choir. What an indictment on their education.

A local authority inspector recently reprimanded me for teaching Christina Rossetti's *Goblin Market*. It was far too hard for 13-year-olds, he insisted.

My grandmother's education started and finished in a Dorset village school, which she left at 14. Not long before her death at 91 in 1987, triggered by a chance remark, she astonished us by reciting almost the whole of Macaulay's *The Keeping of the Bridge*. She had learnt it at school.

SCHOOL inspectors should remember that poetry, like music, communicates before it is understood. The rhythms and resonances of *The Ancient Mariner* for example, get into your head and lodge unshakably like a catchy tune. Even low-ability groups find Coleridge a delight to recite: "The fair breeze blew, the white foam flew, / The furrow followed free".

All the well-known narrative poems should be in the curriculum. Arnold and Longfellow, Tennyson and Coleridge have more educational value in the long term than Roger McGough, Brian Patten and Kit Wright.

VIEWPOINT



Susan Elkin

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However, there are still doubts about the future of the Net Book Agreement, which have dogged the group's shares as it has a substantial share of the British books market, sold through its retail outlets and Waterstone's. The newspaper industry's price war is thought to be having little effect on the group's margins, while rising sales of newspapers in supermarkets should be helping Smith through its wholesale

**Bringing W H Smith's problems to book — Sir Malcolm Field, chief executive**

network. There is also concern that the National Lottery may be depressing some lower-ticket items such as magazines and sweets. The initial promise of spin-off sales failed to materialise. Instead, lottery ticket fever produced chaotic scenes in some stores as long queues for tickets caused disruption. Like-for-like sales at Do It All, the DIY joint venture with Boots, are expected to rise 3.8 per cent in the last quarter of 1994, but be down 2.7 per cent on an actual basis. Losses at Do It All are forecast to

be substantially trimmed to between £2.5 and £5 million (£7.5 million loss).

**JOHN MENZIES:** The attention of analysts will focus on Christmas trading and the effects of the newspaper industry's price war when the newspaper distributor and retailer unveils first-half profits later today.

A solid performance is expected, especially from the Early Learning Centre chain. Sales in most divisions are thought to have grown steadily over the

festive period, though price deflation in certain retail products, such as stationery, may maintain pressure on margins. Nick Bubb at Morgan Stanley, the American securities house, expects interim pre-tax profits to climb to £7 million (£6.5 million), with an interim dividend of 4.3p (4.1p) predicted. Market forecasts range from £7 million to £8.5 million.

**SEACON HOLDINGS:** The ship operator and steel transport group will have had trade dis-

Analysts wait to hear if the group has reaped any substantial benefits since installing National Lottery terminals in the majority of its convenience stores under an agreement with Camelot Group, the lottery organiser.

**ALLIED TEXTILES:** Hopes of a revival in fortunes for the textiles sector are pinned on what Allied Textiles, one of Britain's leading fabric and fibre manufacturers, has to say when it unveils full-year figures on Wednesday. Last year raw material price rises kept a lid on its performance. Allied would have been hurt by the warm autumn weather, but recovery in Europe should see final pre-tax profits improve to £16.8 million (£13.7 million), according to Barchays de Zoete Wedd. Market forecasts range from £15.8 million to £17 million. A dividend of 13.2p-13.5p (12.9p) is predicted.

**MISYS:** A modest improvement is forecast when the computer software and services group, which recently withdrew a bid for its smaller rival RM after the latter decided to go ahead with its stock market flotation, reports interim figures on Thursday. First-half pre-tax profits are forecast to climb to £11.2 million (£8 million), according to UBS. An improved interim dividend of 3.3p (3p) is predicted.

On Thursday, the December figures for Britain's trade performance with countries outside the European Union are due to be published.

**JANET BUSH**

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100



# Peso crisis seen as a setback and not a disaster

By JANET BUSH  
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE World Bank has said that the Mexican peso crisis, although clearly a setback for the world economy, should not create long-term financial difficulties either for Latin America, or for the developing countries as a whole.

The bank, which last night published its World Debt Tables summarising lending and capital flows to developing countries, said that private capital would continue to be a major source of funding for middle-income developing countries.

Michael Bruno, World Bank chief economist and vice president, development economics, said: "The economic reforms that many developing countries have undertaken in recent years have played an important role in re-establishing their creditworthiness and attract-

ing these large flows of private capital." The bank said that the Mexican experience underlined the danger of relying excessively on short-term flows and said that countries must continue to monitor how their domestic savings and investment rates are evolving and ensure that fiscal and current account balances are sustainable.

In 1994, private capital flows to developing countries totalled \$173 billion, more than four times the 1989 figure of \$41.9 billion. However, this was a much slower rate of increase than in 1993, when flows rose by 55 per cent in a year to reach \$159 billion. The bank said it expected growth in such flows to continue, but at a much slower pace than in the early 1990s when emerging markets, with relatively high interest rates, benefited from very low US interest rates. Private capital now accounts for three quarters of all long-term flows to developing

countries, compared with 44 per cent in 1990. However, access to private funds has been concentrated in only a score of countries. The bulk of these are middle-income countries in East Asia and Latin America, with only India and China representing the low income category.

The World Bank said that, notwithstanding the slowdown in the growth of flows in 1994 and the subsequent knock in confidence among emerging market investors because of Mexico, it believed that flows would continue. It emphasised that this is primarily because of structural change in many developing economies, the positive effects of which it said would be reinforced as the Gatt agreement is implemented.

The bank noted that more than 40 per cent of private capital flows to developing countries is now accounted for by foreign direct investment.

Net flows have been increasing steadily since the mid-1980s and in 1993 jumped by 42 per cent from 1992 to \$66.6 billion.

In addition, developing countries' share of worldwide foreign direct investment has increased to more than 37 per cent, while flows to industrialised countries have declined. The bank attributed this to the trend towards worldwide production sourcing and marketing strategies by international businesses, as well as "more welcoming trade and investment regimes" in many countries.

Low income countries continue to rely almost exclusively on official flows from governments and lending institutions such as the World Bank. The bank said that there was now a consensus that these countries need an "exit strategy" from repeated debt reschedulings, but would also need new financing on "highly concessional" terms.

## Electrical retailers to renew OFT battle

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE big electrical retailers such as Dixons and Comet are to intensify their campaign to the Office of Fair Trading against the retail businesses of the regional electricity companies, which they accuse of unfair competition, once a new head of the OFT arrives in May.

The move comes after a disappointing Christmas trading statement from Comet, part of the Kingfisher retailing combine, which last week warned the market that it would slip into the red in the current financial year.

The retailers are incensed at what they claim are unfair cross-subsidies between the enormously profitable core businesses of the electricity companies and their mainly loss-making retail operations.

Dixons and the other big chains have already been rebuffed at the OFT, when the outgoing Director-General, Sir Bryan Carsberg, found in November 1993 that the electricity industry had no case to answer. But they are deter-

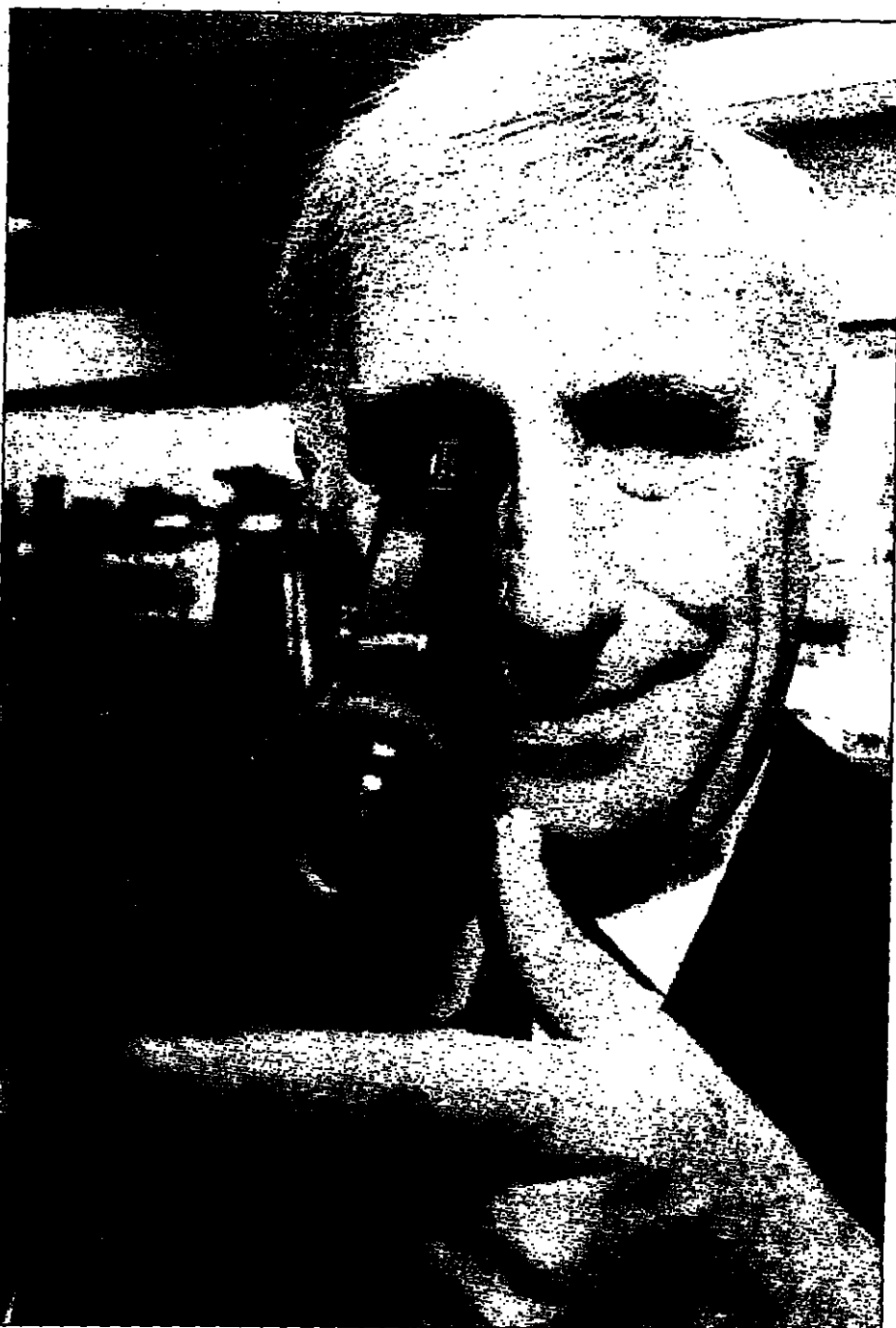
mined, in the light of their Christmas trading experience, to renew the fight. They are thought to be awaiting Sir Bryan's replacement, as well as the electricity industry's latest set of full-year figures at about the same time, which are expected to show further widespread losses.

The retailers hope for a more sympathetic response from the new director-general, especially if Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry regulator, were to get the job. He backed them in 1993.

Stanley Kalms, the Dixons chairman, has claimed that the power industry had lost £250 million on its retail businesses since it was privatised in 1990. He said at the time of Dixons' interim figures earlier this month that most of the industry's shops were making huge losses.

The electricity companies themselves have always denied cross-subsidising, saying that their trading subsidiaries are entirely free-standing and are operated as independent businesses.

But the big retailers claim many of the businesses would by now be in the hands of the receivers were they not part of larger groups. Their own analyses are thought to suggest that the retail operations of the 12 regional electricity companies in England and Wales lost £5.5 million between them by the September half-way stage of their financial year, only a slight improvement on the £7.4 million lost at the same stage of the previous financial year. Kingfisher has firmly denied a weekend report that Comet's losses have prompted the group to put the business up for sale. Nigel Whittaker, a Kingfisher director, said the report was "totally unjustified". He added: "Comet is not for sale." The group is not talking down reports of impending board changes.



Stanley Kalms, of Dixons, is focusing his hopes on a new head of the OFT

## Labour attacks pension details

By ROBERT MILLER

DONALD DEWAR, the Shadow Spokesman for Social Security, is to call for company pension fund members to account for half of the membership of boards of trustees instead of the present proposal, contained in the Pensions Bill, of a third.

Mr Dewar will speak at a conference in London tomorrow on pension law reform to coincide with the second reading of the Pensions Bill in the House of Lords. Mr Dewar yesterday said the Government had taken advantage of the small print in the Bill, which has some 140 clauses and is one of the longest and most complex Bills in recent times, to "manipulate" many recommendations set out in the Code report on pensions reform.

The Bill will generate a fierce debate on all sides of the pensions industry. Among key issues will be the role of the new pensions regulator, the future of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (Serps), and in particular the abolition of the Guaranteed Minimum Pension, the minimum solvency requirements and the funding of the compensation scheme.

The Fawcett Society, whose members include Age Concern and the Equal Opportunities Commission, will argue that the proposal to equalise the state pension age at 65 "only exacerbates the disadvantaged position in which women find themselves".

Letters, page 19

## Viacom sells cable arm for \$2.3bn

By SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN NEW YORK

VIACOM, the American entertainment conglomerate, is to sell its cable television systems for \$2.3 billion to a partnership that includes a subsidiary of Tele-Communications, the top American cable operator.

The company, which owns Paramount Communications, the Blockbuster video retail chain, the publisher Simon and Schuster, and the MTV network among other busi-

nesses, had been planning to sell the cable operation for some time. It acquired a huge debt when its colourful chairman, Summer Redstone, clinched the Paramount deal last year for \$9.6 billion.

To help to pay off the debt, Viacom has already sold Madison Square Garden, the New York landmark, for \$1.1 billion, and it plans to dispose of other assets. The \$2.3 billion price for the cable systems will

be mostly cash, although Viacom said up to \$600 million may be paid in securities. The company expects a tax advantage under a US government programme to support racial minority ownership of communications outlets.

Because the partnership is headed by a company wholly owned by Frank Washington, a black entrepreneur, Viacom can defer some capital gains taxes from the sale. The

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Lloyd's set to fight asbestosis writ

LLOYD'S of London will "vigorously" oppose any writ from the Lloyd's Action Group over an alleged multimillion-pound cover-up on asbestosis claims. A spokesman for the 300-year old insurance market, which is supported by the assets of individual names, said: "We are aware that a writ is being prepared but we are confident that all the letters and material supporting the writ have been in the public domain for a very long time." Tom Benyon, chairman of the Society of Names, said: "Suing the institution of Lloyd's is a futile gesture and generally unhelpful to the many thousands of names who have legitimate claims for negligence against the market. It is a waste of time and scarce resources."

Meanwhile, Lloyd's is also braced for claims arising from the Kobe earthquake in Japan. While claims relating to property damage will be limited, Kobe is a major port and on the marine side they are expected to run into hundreds of millions of pounds.

### More homeowners hit

A CITY stockbroker has claimed that a further 200,000 people have fallen the negative equity trap. In the past three months, the number of those whose mortgage debt was greater than the actual value of their property had reached 1.3 million, according to researchers at UBS. With more building societies likely to announce further mortgage rate rises this week, the housing market is likely to suffer a new setback. Falling prices will only serve to escalate the negative equity problem, UBS says. Average house prices declined by 1.7% in the last quarter of 1994.

### ICI cheaper power call

ICI, one of Britain's biggest manufacturers and a long-time lobbyist for lower energy prices, wants the electricity industry regulator, Professor Stephen Littlechild, to cut the cost of electricity again in the so-called "pool" or free market. ICI claims the price currently paid by industry does not reflect the cheaper power becoming available from the most advanced electricity generating plant now on stream. The company argues that there would be justification for cutting the charges by 15 per cent. Last year the regulator capped prices in the "pool" for two years.

### Small business boom

THE number of small businesses in the UK has grown for the first time since 1989, according to a survey by Barclays Bank. During 1994, the number of new businesses starting up reached 446,000. At the same time, there were 422,000 businesses closing down, 13 per cent fewer than the previous year. This meant a net gain of 24,000. David Lavarak, the bank's head of small business services, said: "The small business sector experienced a strong recovery through 1994. The recovery was widespread, with jobless numbers falling in every region of the UK."

### Gardner Merchant sold

GARDNER MERCHANT, the contract caterer, signed a deal over the weekend to link up with Sodexo, the catering group listed on the French stock market, to create a worldwide combine with an annual turnover of £2.5 billion and employing 110,000 people in 60 countries. Sodexo will buy 100 per cent of Gardner Merchant's share capital for £543 million in cash, and take on £173 million of the company's debt. Gardner Merchant will continue to trade separately. Sodexo will finance the deal by issuing £1.1 billion of new equity and taking on some £122 billion in borrowing.

### Dogfight goes to Lords

KUWAIT AIRWAYS' final attempt to win damages of nearly \$500 million against Iraq Airways over Baghdad's seizure of aircraft during the Gulf War reaches its climax today in the House of Lords. Lawyers for Kuwait Airways are scheduled to present their case that Iraq Airways cannot hide behind sovereign immunity to escape liability for using the seized aircraft. The appeal concerns ten of 15 Kuwait Airways' planes that Iraqi Airways flew out of Kuwait after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

### Banking overview

THE British Bankers' Association has set up a new advisory committee to identify issues that concern members with international private banking interests. Tim Sweeney, director-general of the BBA, said the committee will be looking into regulatory changes that affect domestic, European and overseas private banks. This "fits in with our interest of promoting London as a financial centre," he said. The new advisory committee is headed by George Alford, head of private banking at Kleinwort Benson.

## TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.17	2.00
Austria Sch	16.08	15.98
Belgium Fr	52.76	48.46
Canada \$	2.957	2.197
Cyprus Cyp£	0.780	0.725
Denmark Kr	10.06	9.28
Finland Mk	5.01	7.35
France Fr	6.75	6.10
Germany Dm	2.98	2.35
Greece Dr	347.00	372.00
Hong Kong \$	12.88	11.88
Ireland P£	1.08	0.98
Italy Lit	268.00	248.00
Japan Yen	171.00	155.00
Malta	0.625	0.585
Netherlands Gld	2.20	2.10
Norway Kr	11.10	10.30
Portugal Esc	200.00	242.00
Spain Ptas	217.00	200.00
Sweden Kr	12.38	11.58
Switzerland Fr	2.15	1.95
Turkey Lira	1.80	0.95
USA \$	1.80	1.60

Rates for small denominations (notes only) are supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates are at close of trading on Friday.

## WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 44

### SKIJORING

(a) A winter sport in which a skier is pulled over the snow by a horse or horses (or by a motorised vehicle). From the Norwegian *ski* + *hjøring* driving. "Skating, sliding, cutting and jodeling in the intervals of skiing, skijoring, skilacking and skihandling."

### TRIKINI

(b) Any of various designs of ladies' swimsuit which consist of three main areas of fabric (a pants and as a separate covering for each breast). Derived humorously from *pikini*. "Some ingenious fellow has just come up with a trikini, best described as a handkerchief and two small saucers. The saucers, say the manufacturers, stick on with Velcro, the stuff which fastens at a touch."

### STAMMBAUM

(c) A family tree of languages in linguistics, from the German for a family tree, this sense being introduced by A. Schleicher in 1863. "One of the classic unresolved dichotomies of historical linguistics is the opposition of the stammbaum and wave theories of linguistic differentiation."

### TUKAL

(a) A beehive-shaped hut with a thatched roof found in Ethiopia and adjacent parts of Africa. The Ethiopian name, also *tukul* and *tukl*. Evelyn Waugh, *Waugh in Abyssinia*, 1936: "The office was a small, lightless tukal a hundred yards or so off the road."

## SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qe1 wins, e.g. 1... Re6 (1... Qd8 2 Re7! forces mate) 2 d5 Nxd3 3 dxc6 and White wins easily on material.

## Full time as Celtic seeks City result

By MARTIN BARROW



Premier asset: Paul McStay, the Scottish international

FOOTBALL'S uneasy relationship with the City will be further put to the test this week when a share offer by Celtic, the Scottish Premier League club, draws to a close.

The club hopes to raise up to £8.9 million through the share issue to fund the construction of a new stadium and acquire new players. The shares will trade on a matched-bid basis under the Stock Exchange's rule 4.2.

The offer closes tomorrow and the club, which bullishly promotes it as a chance to own "a piece of paradise", says it has had inquiries from more than 7,000 potential investors, with interest among expatriates as far off as South Africa, Canada, Hong Kong, New Zealand and the Middle East. Players are also encouraged to invest, and one, John Col-

lins, has helped to publicise the offer as the club appeals to its supporters for help. Mr Collins said: "It's a good thing to do and something I can hand on to my children. It's also just nice to know that you've got a small part of the club which is, I'm sure, the way everyone will feel."

Up to a point, Celtic is turning to its supporters and a wider public after years of boardroom strife and mismanagement that left the club on the verge of bankruptcy. Unable to call upon a wealthy benefactor in the style of Jack Walker of Blackburn Rovers, who is estimated to have spent £54 million on his club without yet landing a major trophy, the club is effectively passing round the hat to ensure its long-term survival. Celtic, which dominated

Scottish soccer in the 1970s, has not won a major trophy since 1969. With attendances falling away sharply, losses have been incurred in each of the past three years, totalling more than £4.3 million. The club is effectively homeless, having temporarily abandoned Celtic Park in Glasgow because it did not meet conditions set out by the Taylor Report. Redevelopment of the stadium has started but a total of £29.6 million will be needed to see the project completed.

Although harmony apparently reigns in the boardroom under Fergus McCann, who emerged victorious from a power struggle to become chairman and managing director, Celtic's problems off the pitch are far from over. With a number of legal actions outstanding,

## CHANGE ON WEEK

### THE POUND

US dollar  
1.5902 (+0.0209)  
German mark  
2.3991 (-0.0059)  
Exchange index  
79.8 (+0.3)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share  
2280.9 (-64.9)  
FT-SE 100  
2995.0 (-53.3)  
New York Dow Jones  
3869.43 (-38.03)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave  
18840.22 (-490.95)

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# Plot's early promise blighted by alien corn

Time was when you could rely on anything tasty in the garden being confined to the woodshed. But by the final quarter of *The Plant* (BBC1) seriously unpleasant things were popping up all over the place. In the vegetable patch, under the Japanese rock garden, through a branch line of the outdoor model railway — suddenly everything was coming up bodice.

Dead bodies? You might think so — certainly one decidedly ploddy policeman ("he's a concert pianist" "A what?" did. But the pathologists had news for them — and us. "These are not the dead bodies of grown people, but the growing bodies of people not yet alive." Well, I suppose it makes a change from the "considering she's pregnant" line that television pathologists are normally confined to.

From then on it was not so much downhill, as blast-off. Really we should have guessed that the nice

young man from number whatever would turn out to be a very small alien from our solar system's as yet undiscovered 11th planet. Came all this way and then broke the test-tubes that had the body spores in. What a bother.

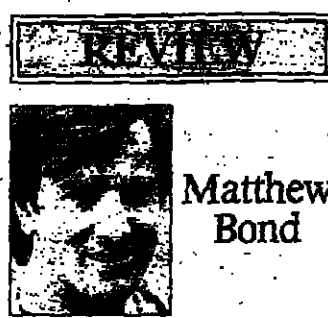
And what a disservice to all the fine work that had gone before. Right from the wonderful opening sequence of a grand piano being lifted over an elegant row of semis, writer and director Jonathan Lewis had created a truly magical place, a suburban oasis of burgeoning back-garden greenery, complete with latter-day dryad and hot and cold (well, certainly cool) running jazz. Surely it deserved more than a dénouement straight out of the "and then I woke up — it was all a dream" school of creative thought.

Certainly Joanna Roth and Valentine Pidd did, after turning in two lovely performances in the principal roles. As Connie, tele-

vision researcher and part-time dryad, Roth was exactly what most chaps would like to find at the bottom of the garden, while Pidd as Max, cat-lover and astronomer, seemed pretty much the perfect boy-next-door, albeit a shade off-worldly. Their inevitable romance was conducted with much charm, not a little choreography and will have done great things for sales of the camera obscura. "Over the bed sir? That's a little unusual."

But while the first half was notable for a delightful lightness of touch (such as the moving, if irrelevant, tale of the retired karateka pilot) the second half was not. Apart from the conclusion, the revelation that Connie was the grand-daughter of a convicted murderer was not so much a red herring as a rotting kipper, reeking of improbability. Still, loved the first half.

Perhaps that was because, hav-



Matthew Bond

ing watched *The 3,000 Mile Garden* (Channel 4), I had already learned that gardening was not the quiet world I'd imagined. Beneath that friable surface layer smoulders a subsoil of dark passions.

On paper, the transatlantic correspondence between an American food writer and a British mushroom expert seemed an unlikely source of Friday night entertainment. But oh, how wrong I was.

Leslie Land from Maine and Roger Phillips from Fimlico may pay due courtesy to their respective partners, but there's something seriously horticultural flirting going on. "Beside, fungi," a breathless Leslie gasped, "we soon discovered we shared two other obsessions: food and gardens." The pair have been energetically exploring this common ground ever since.

In his early efforts, Roger displayed typical British reserve. "Leslie has two overriding passions — the search for the perfect tomato and her partner Bill," he said. "Leslie knows exactly what keeps her warm during those long winter months." Roger, it seemed, fixing the camera with a determined look, "you have got to make room for potatoes — in your garden, in your heart, in your life, in your mouth."

By now Roger had the hang of it. Leslie may have purred potatoes, but Roger wanted to talk...

tomatoes. "What I really want from you, Leslie, are some tomato seeds. Please, please send seeds." Leslie had that look in her eye again as she dispatched her favourite variety. "OK Roger, here come the Brandywines."

Things were definitely getting hot, too hot perhaps, as Roger relayed how he cooked a New Year ham in a rotting pile of leaves to a still snow-bound Leslie. It was too much for a woman to bear. "Your steaming pile of proto-mulch makes me gnash my teeth," she wrote back, turning in desperation to her old pal Sam, "the lobster king and chainsaw specialist" for what she described as a spot of "major pruning". No wonder it's shown after the watershed.

By Saturday evening the temperature had cooled for the first Ghosts (BBC1), except presumably in the house of Derek Lewis,

the beleaguered prison service chief, who, cannot have enjoyed this diverting tale of lifers mastering aerial projection. Even now, Judge Tunnin may be penning an urgent memo about the potential for escape by astral plane.

Ghost is the BBC's nod in the direction of the current vogue for "weird" television. But it's also a nostalgic nod in the direction of past explorations of the genre, such as *Tales of the Unexpected*. So much so, that I rather missed the flame-proof girl who used to dance over the final credits.

Stephen Volk's tale of revenge may not have contained much in the way of new twists, but helped by some fine performances — particularly from Derrick O'Connor as the psychopathic Jack Rudkin — it proved diverting enough. Except, of course, in the Lewis household.

Lynne Truss is away

## BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast (34946)
- 7.00 Breakfast News (1823088)
- 9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (559852)
- 10.00 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (147812) 10.05 Good Morning With Anne and Nick. Weekly magazine (s) (557594)
- 12.00 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (732120) 12.05 Pebble Mill (s) (392585) 12.55 Regional News (CeeFax) and weather (731714)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (CeeFax) and weather (80994)
- 1.30 Neighbours. (CeeFax) (s) (9104878) 1.50 Timespeakers. Quiz presented by Bill Dod (s) (9106894)
- 2.15 Knots Landing. American drama series (s) (849491) 3.00 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin prepares a budget feast (8125743)
- 3.25 Cartoon (8757168) 3.45 Badger and Badger. A mix of live action and puppets (s) (5282491) 4.00 Jackanory. Simon Schatzberger with part one of Kathy Henderson's story. Second Time Charlie (s) (611048) 4.10 The Legend of Prince Valiant. Animated adventures. (CeeFax) (s) (4153491) 4.35 Tomorrow's End. Science-fiction drama series (s) (CeeFax) (427078)
- 5.00 Newsround (6889033) 5.05 Blue Peter. (CeeFax) (s) (1374288)
- 5.35 Neighbours. (s) (CeeFax) (s) (540782)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (CeeFax) and weather (771)
- 6.30 Regional News Magazines (753)
- 7.00 Champion Telly Addicts. The Reynish family, the 1986 winners, meet the Gardiners, champions of 1991 (s) (4168)
- 7.30 Watchdog. Includes a look at slimming patches and British Gas's service contracts. (CeeFax) (s) (217)

## BBC2

- 7.00 The Adventures of Buzzy Bee and Friends (s) (4403675) 7.05 The Family Man (s) (4404846) 7.10 The Legend of Prince Valiant (s) (611048) (s) (5754107) 7.35 White Fang (1984) (s) (s) (5754107) 8.00 Breakfast News. (CeeFax and signing) (8882675) 8.15 The Record. Tim Fenton reports on Friday's proceedings in Parliament (s) (724956)
- 8.35 Arthur Negus. Enjoys the Museum of Playthings Past (s) (4832588) 8.50 A Week To Remember (s) (388698)
- 9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, 10.00-10.25 Playdays (8914815) 2.00 Tales of Aesop (8127816) 2.05 Rupert (s) (51277438) 2.10 FILM: The Children of An Lee (1980) starring Shirley Jones and Burt Reynolds. Fact-based drama about the efforts of three women to save the hundreds of Vietnamese orphans at the time of the fall of Saigon in 1975. Directed by John Ulewellyn. Muzzy. Includes News and weather at 3.00 (588323) and 3.50 (5881089)
- 4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (946)
- 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (830)
- 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. A discussion between teenagers and their parents on the age to start dating (s) (3482856)
- 5.40 Decisions. Jane Ward on why she decided to try to have a child at the age of 58 (540887)
- 6.00 Buck Rogers. In the 25th Century (s) (446304) 6.45 Animation Now (107287)
- 7.00 The Private Life of Plants (s) (CeeFax) (385556) 7.50 Travel Show. Short Cuts. A caravan holiday (453410)



Anthony Blunt as royal art adviser (BBC2, 11.15pm)

- 8.00 Horizon: Bones of Contention. (CeeFax) (s) (888052)
- 8.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. (CeeFax) (s) (517438)
- 9.00 Stappo and Son. Classic rag-and-bone men comedy (s) (4385)
- 9.30 Signs and Wonders. Episode two of the four-part drama about an English family whose daughter joins a sinister religious cult. (CeeFax) (s) (78255)
- 10.30 Newsnight. (CeeFax) (828684)
- 11.15 Thinker, Painter, Scholar, Spy (s) (573830)
- 11.55 Weather (820014)
- 12.00 News followed by The Midnight Hour. Sir Bernard Ingham on the day's political news (s) (598386)
- Ends at 12.55am
- 4.45-5.00 BBC Select: Disability Agenda (86673732) 5.30-6.00 RSN Nursing Update (42288)

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## CHOICE

- Cutting Edge: Growing Apart. Channel 4, 9.00pm. Seven British mothers travel to Libya, hoping to be reunited with their abducted children. The trip has been arranged by two resourceful journalists, Corinne Simcock and Ann Jousiffe, dismayed at the lack of help from the British Government. The women have been promised free access to the children at a holiday resort outside Tripoli. But things soon go wrong. Some of the children are not there. Fathers, who were supposed to stay away, turn up and cause trouble. Emotional reunions between mothers and offspring produce tear-soaked faces and leave questions unresolved. Much may depend on the workings of the Libyan legal system. The cameras are there to record hopes raised, hopes dashed and the awful limbo in between.
- Horizon: Bones of Contention. BBC2, 8.00pm. Over the past century and a half the bones of tens of thousands of American Indians have accumulated in universities and museums. Scientists say these relics are essential to research, particularly into disease. The Indians dispute this and want their ancestors back. Many states now have laws protecting native remains. In California there are so strict that an archaeologist was hounded out of his profession, even though a change of criminal possession was dropped. There has been a happier outcome in Nebraska where an agreement between the Omaha tribe and the university has allowed the bones to be studied and to be given a proper burial. But memories of the white man's treatment of the native American die hard.



Anthony Blunt as royal art adviser (BBC2, 11.15pm)

Thinker, Painter, Scholar, Spy. BBC2, 11.15pm. Before he was exposed as a Soviet spy, Anthony Blunt enjoyed a high reputation as an art historian and above all for his study of the 17th-century French painter, Nicolas Poussin. Pegged to the Poussin exhibition in London, a Life magazine film sets out to explain what Blunt and Poussin tell us about each other. But the affinity between the Cambridge Marxist and the apostle of stoicism remains puzzling. The programme is an former ground taking up the debate explored by Richard Cork in this newspaper. Blunt saw Poussin as a philosophical painter. Blunt's critics accuse him of neglecting Poussin's painterly qualities and emotional depth. The plummy-voiced art critic Brian Sewell, a friend of Blunt, tries to mediate.

Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. BBC2, 8.50pm. In Lambton's scheme of things D stands for Dorset's delight. Tenderly, perhaps, she spends the entire programme in Bournemouth, which has been part of Dorset since 1974. She does not even go beyond one building. This is the Victoria Hotel, a rich philanthropy. Sir Merton Russell-Cox, and his wife, Annie. Both were local celebrities. She was known as Queen of Bournemouth. They were married for 65 years and died within nine months of each other. Less animated than she used to be, Lambton nonetheless enthuses madly about an untouched monument to the Victorian era and flamboyance. As the Russell-Coxes requested, she handles their photograph album with white gloves.

## CARLTON

- 6.00am GMTV (3122255)
- 9.25 Chain Letters (4801830) 9.55 London Today (Telex) and weather (3564994)
- 10.00 The Time... The Place (s) (8993236)
- 10.35 This Morning (23831149) 12.20pm London Today (Telex) and weather (7825304)
- 12.30 News (Telex) and weather (7384782)
- 12.55 Coronation Street (s) (Telex) (7382781)
- 1.25 Home and Away (Telex) (34764946) 1.55 Country Woman (s) (8932130) 2.25 A Country Practice (s) (17796120) 2.50 Blue Heelers (8717761)
- 3.20 News (Telex) (5248052) 3.25 London Today (Telex) and weather (5245323)
- 3.30 Rainbow (s) (5280552) 3.40 Tots TV (s) (9258471) 3.50 Taz-Mania (s) (4387491) 4.15 Harry's Mad (Telex) (s) (986436) 4.45 Art Attack (s) (4254830)
- 5.10 After 5 (Telex) (4429138). Followed by The Missing File
- 5.40 News (Telex) and weather (893034)
- 5.55 Your Short Views' opinions (377948)
- 6.00 Home and Away (s) (Telex) (148)
- 6.30 London Tonight (Telex) (101)
- 7.00 Wish You Were Here... 7 John Carter enjoys a bird's eye view of Zimbabwe; Julia McKenzie and her husband Gerry Harte investigate the fruits of Italy's litchens; and Judith Chalmers reports from a castle in Chwyd. (Telex) (s) (9236)



Baldwin, Goodyear and Briggs (7.30pm)

- 7.30 Coronation Street. Bet (Julie Goodyear) intervenes when Ken (Mike Baldwin) and Mike (Johnny Briggs) come to blows over the furniture at number one. (Telex) (385)
- 8.00 Lucky Numbers with Shane Ritchie (5656)
- 8.30 World in Action. (Telex) (s) (7491)
- 9.00 FILM: F/X — The Deadly Art of Illusion starring Bryan Brown, Brian Dennehy and Rachel Tootin. A former special effects man helps a detective to catch a peeping Tom, but things go horribly wrong and the detective is killed, so he enlists the help of a friend to help him to catch the killer. Directed by Richard Franklin. (Telex) (s) (8858)
- 10.00 News at Ten (Telex) and weather (74579)
- 10.30 London Tonight (Telex) and weather (367101)
- 10.40 FILM: F/X — The Deadly Art of Illusion (continued) (378052)
- 11.40 The Equalizer (689101)
- 12.00am Endeavour League Extra (9479298)
- 1.25 Sport AM (210908)
- 2.25 Quiz Night. Pub competition (1633231)
- 2.50 FILM: Doctor in Distress (1963) starring Dirk Bogarde, Robert Johnson, Robert Johnson. There is cause for alarm when the usually hostile surgeon Sir Lancelot Spratt suddenly becomes kindly and considerate. Directed by Ralph Thomas (511347)
- 4.30 Chrysalis's Style Guide (s) (s) (1817328)
- 4.55 The Time... The Place (s) (s) (213618)
- 5.30 ITN Morning News (11724). Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.35 Once Upon A Time — Life. An animated exploration of the human body (s) (8883804)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (70217)
- 9.00 You Bet Your Life (s) (14526)
- 9.30 Schools: Geography Start Here (8771217) 9.45 Talk, White and Red (8794189) 10.02 Stage Two Science (5310552) 10.20 Place and People (5219472) 10.40 The English Programme (2669491) 11.05 Encyclopaedia Galactica (7347101) 11.15 The Music Show (1070520) 11.30 Rat-a-Tat-Tat (8451410) 11.45 Junior Technology (8468865)
- 12.00 Right to Reply (s) (84782)
- 12.30 Sesame Street. Entertaining early learning series. The guest is Bradford Marsalis (78101) 1.30 Little Miss followed by Paddington, Frodo Tootles and The Wombles (s) (s) (42897)
- 2.00 Pete Smith Specialise. A double bill — Weather Wizards and That's His Story (76761439)
- 2.15 FILM: Ring of Spies (1963, b/w) starring Bernard Lee and William Sylvester. Espionage drama about a man working in a secret Royal Navy experimental establishment who is recruited into a spy network. Directed by Robert Tronson. (Telex) (570782)
- 3.55 The 3,000 Mile Garden (s) (Telex) (3893149)
- 4.30 Countdown (Telex) (s) (528)
- 5.00 The Golden Girls. Dorothy and Sophia visit Disneyland (s) (Telex) (7014)
- 5.30 Nurses. Comedy series set in a Miami hospital (s) (Telex) (s) (878)
- 6.00 The Cosby Show. Domestic comedy series (s) (Telex) (491)
- 6.30 Hangin' With Mr. Cooper. American college comedy series. (Telex) (s) (743)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (Telex) and weather (653052)
- 7.50 The Slot. The first of three consecutive views on rail privatisation (455878)
- 8.00 Little Killers: A Short Heist Life. A documentary about the water snail, one of the world's most aggressive mammals. (Telex) (s) (820)
- 8.30 Only When I Laugh. Classic hospital comedy starring James Bolam, Peter Bowles, Christopher Straul and Richard Wilson (s) (Telex) (5033)



Denise comforts her children in Libya (9.00pm)

- 9.00 Cutting Edge: Growing Apart. (Telex) (s) (9101)
- 10.00 NYPD Blue. The return of the New York police drama. (Telex) (s) (693304)
- 10.55 FILM: Uccellini e Uccellini (1986) starring Toto, Nino D'Angelo and Rossana di Rocca. Pier Paolo Pasolini's tragic-comedy about two innocents retracing the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi accompanied by a philosophical talking bird. In Italian with English subtitles (1899149)
- 12.35am Eye 2 Eye. Design quiz chaired by Steve Taylor (s) (8925250)
- 1.05 FILM: Gangway (1937, b/w) starring Jessie Matthews. Vintage comedy musical about a newspaper reporter suspected of being a notorious jewel thief. Directed by Sonnie Hale (883453). Ends at 2.45

## VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA. As London except: 6.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (525494) 12.20pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 1.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 2.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 3.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 4.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 5.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 6.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 7.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 8.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 9.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 10.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 11.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 12.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 1.25am Anglia News and Weather (525494) 2.25am Anglia News and Weather (525494) 3.25am Anglia News and Weather (525494) 4.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 5.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 6.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 7.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 8.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 9.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 10.25pm Anglia News and Weather (525494) 11.25pm 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## Heseltine stalls on financial changes at Post Office

By PHILIP BASSETT  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government is refusing to agree a new financial framework for the Post Office after the failure of its attempt to privatise the corporation, according to a leaked letter from Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade.

But in spite of this stance, Post Office leaders are putting specific new proposals to ministers for moves to give the corporation greater commercial freedom within the public sector. Post Office managers believe that the Government's refusal to set a new framework for the corporation will consign its finances, performance and competitiveness to decline.

Mr Heseltine will be pressed to clarify the Post Office's future when he is questioned this week by MPs on the Commons' all-party Trade and Industry Select Committee. But in advance of the hearing, Mr Heseltine's clear intent to take no steps to frame a new government relationship for the Post Office, even though he and other ministers insisted that the Post Office's current position could not be maintained, is indicated in a letter sent to the committee.

In the letter, Mr Heseltine maintains that, despite the failure of the Government's attempt to privatise the Post Office, "we continue to believe that option is the appropriate way forward". Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, has also made clear the Conservatives' intention to try again to privatise the Post Office if they can win a sufficient parliamentary majority to guarantee it.

In the light of the Government's belief, Mr Heseltine then says "there is no specific reassessment under way" for the Post Office. Some Post Office managers will take this as directly contrary to the Government's statement at the time the planned privatisation was abandoned that ministers would now consider the options for the future of the Post Office.

In a move clearly designed to dash the hopes of those urging the Government to set a new framework for the corporation, Mr Heseltine says: "I have no plans for any policy statement, at least in the near future." He then says only that "my department's relationship with the Post Office continues". This will disappoint senior managers, who have been pressing ministers for a decision on the future of the corporation. As part of that, the new proposals the Post Office has put to the Government will be revealed this week when Mike Heron, chairman, and Bill Cockburn, chief executive, also appear before the select committee.

The proposals, which *The Times* can reveal today, make clear the determination of senior Post Office managers to create an "enterprise culture" in the Post Office, in which the Royal Mail is primarily an international company, though one with a "strong" domestic base. Post Office leaders will declare the need for a change of culture that will mean the Post Office continuing to meet its public service commitments, but in a way that leaves it free to develop the "market discipline and forward-looking commercial behaviour of the best in the private sector". As the central element of that approach, Post Office managers will announce that they have put to ministers six specific measures that should be immediately introduced. These include a new financial regime, agreed guidelines for new commercial development and lifting of tight capital spending restrictions.

Heseltine stamp, page 42

## Cadbury set to buy rest of Dr Pepper

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

CADBURY SCHWEPES, the confectionery combine, will today confirm the achievement of a long-standing corporate aim, an agreed bid in outline to buy the three-quarters of Dr Pepper, the American soft drinks business, that Cadbury does not already own.

The Stock Exchange is expected to demand an announcement from Cadbury on its plans for Dr Pepper, and any required cash-raising after a sharp rise in Dr Pepper shares on Wall Street late last week.

The share price rise was triggered by a report in *Business Week* magazine suggesting that John Albers, chief executive of Dr Pepper, has come to an informal, tentative agreement with Dominic Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes. The report quoted an unnamed New York investment banker.

Wall Street analysts estimated Dr Pepper shares are worth up to \$35, the magazine added, and this is the price that the British group is expected to pay. As a result, the shares were up to just short of \$30 on the New York Stock Exchange on Friday.

Sources close to Cadbury Schweppes refused to comment on the reports. But further weekend press speculation makes a formal statement from the company inevitable this morning.

Cadbury has made no secret in the past of its desire to buy the remaining 74 per cent of Dr Pepper it does not own. An outright purchase of Dr Pepper would put the group in third place in the \$48 billion US soft drinks market. Only Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Co, and established world market leaders, are larger, while Dr Pepper itself is not in the fiercely competitive cola market, which has been damaged by own-label competition. Cadbury's ambitions have been consistently thwarted by opposition from Mr Albers. But he is now approaching retirement age and is thought, reports suggest, to have given his blessing after highly confidential talks over the past few months.

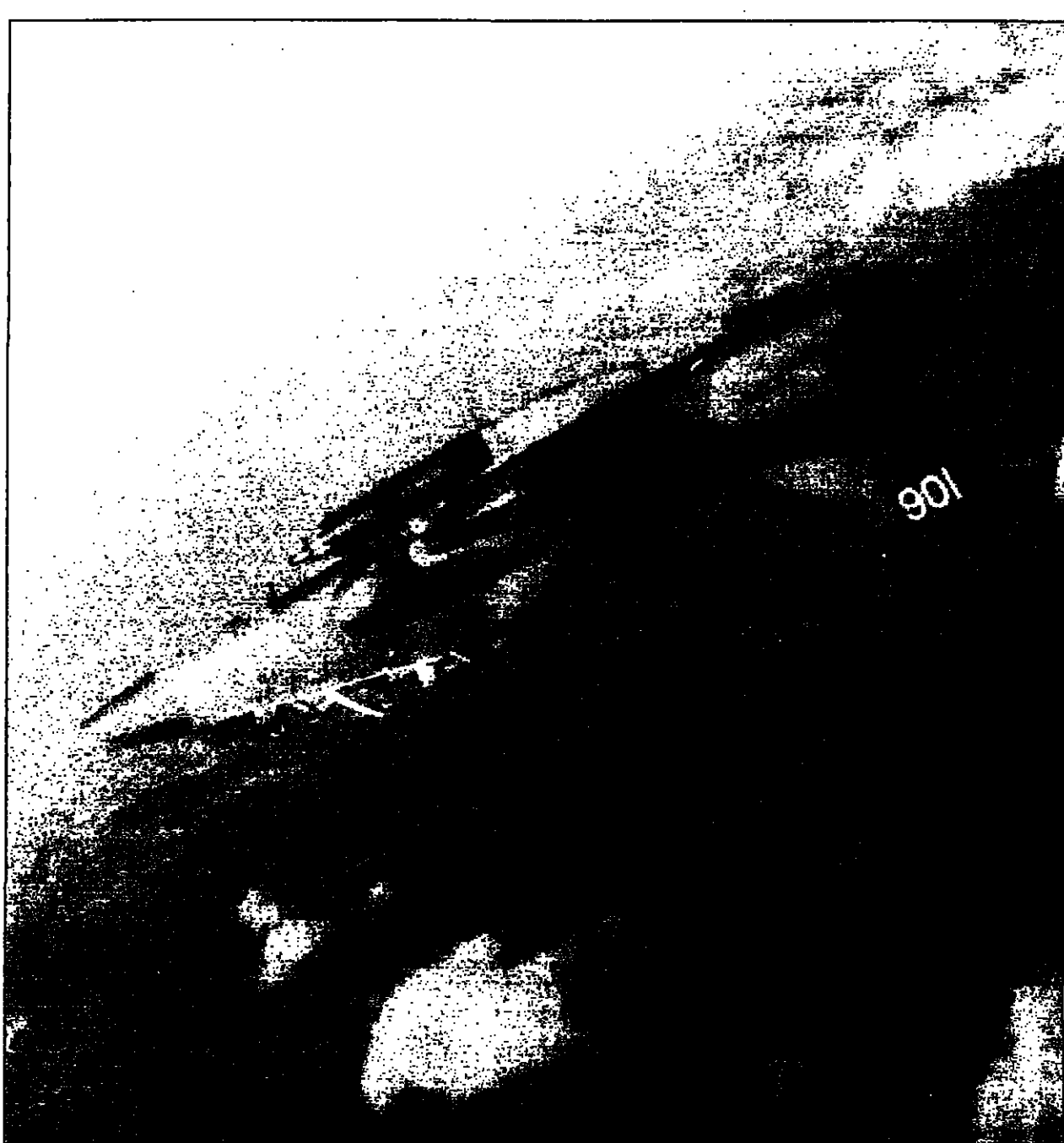
Given Cadbury's existing stake, the cost of buying the rest of Dr Pepper is expected to be little more than £1.1 billion. The group has indicated in the past that a purchase worth as much as £500 million could easily be funded from internal resources.

The expectation, therefore, is that Cadbury will this morning put its shareholders on alert for a rights issue of perhaps £400 million to pay for the rest of the acquisition.

Cadbury's first stake in Dr Pepper, based in Dallas, Texas, was acquired in 1986. A merger between Dr Pepper and Seven-Up two years later left Cadbury with little more than 5 per cent of the equity, but a daring share purchase in 1993 raised the holding to its current level.

That purchase was widely tipped to be followed by a deal to buy the whole group. However, the British group's room to manoeuvre was limited by its refusal to countenance a hostile bid. For its part, Dr Pepper refused Cadbury a seat on its main board, the normal consequence of a friendly stake of this size, instead cutting off dividend payments as a "poison pill" defence.

*Business Week* has also speculated that Cadbury could choose to sell off immediately Dr Pepper's Seven-Up business, with Triarc, owner of Royal Crown Cola, named as potential buyer.



MORE British Aerospace Hawk jet aircraft are likely to be heading for Indonesia (Ross Tieman writes). The purchase of an additional 20 Hawks from British Aerospace is planned in a deal potentially worth £400 million, the third big order for the aircraft from that country over the past decade.

## Twenty BAE Hawk jets bound for Indonesia

News of the deal comes as BAE nears agreement with Aérospatiale of France and Alenia of Italy about the formation of a joint venture to handle sales and support of regional aircraft. A formal announcement could come as early as this week.

The Hawk advanced trainer/combat aircraft are the biggest item outlined in Indonesia's £676 million procurement budget for the fiscal year 1996-1997, according to a report in the publication *Flight International*.

Some 24 aircraft ordered in June 1993 under a £450 million contract are now being delivered from BAE's assembly line at Warton in Lancashire, adding to 20 bought a decade ago. The repeat contract could provide about a year's work for Hawk facilities at Warton and Brough, Humberside.

The Hawk is the world's most successful jet trainer and more than 700 have been built. Customers include the United States Navy, as well as the Royal Air Force, Oman and Malaysia. The aircraft is powered by a single Adour engine manufactured by Rolls-Royce Turbomeca, a 50/50 joint venture between Rolls-Royce and Turbomeca of France.

## Tax threat to break Grid float deadlock

By MARTIN WALLER

THE GOVERNMENT is threatening to push through a savage windfall tax on the owners of the National Grid, the 12 regional electricity companies, if they cannot agree on the £4 billion-plus flotation of the Grid this summer.

The Treasury is believed to be increasingly concerned at the delays to the float and the apparent impossibility of persuading all 12 companies to reach unanimity over their plans for the Grid. Most have accepted that the

shares in the Grid will simply be handed over to their shareholders in line with the latter's existing holdings. That would represent an immediate windfall for hundreds of thousands of small investors who bought into the companies when they were privatised in 1990.

However, there is still disarray over the corresponding benefits that will have to be offered to the customer. Before Christmas the industry was largely agreed that a payment of £20 a household, at a cost of just short of

£500 million, would be sufficient, although consumer groups were aiming for as much as £50.

Part of the rationale of the initial settlement, to compensate for the higher VAT that the consumers were facing on their bills, was kicked away by the Government's defeat in the House of Commons over VAT on fuel bills after the November Budget. Several companies have therefore suggested that the hand-out could be reduced to just £10. Those close to the negotiations point to Eastern, the

biggest of the 12, Southern and Yorkshire, as the most clearly out of line. "There's a fair bit of brinkmanship going on," said one observer.

The Treasury is anxious for the float to go ahead because of the tax that would eventually fall due on the gain, although the precise tax implications of the Grid hand-out have yet to be finalised. Morgan Stanley, the American merchant bank that is one of the Government's advisers, is producing a report on options for the float to go to the Treasury by the start of next month.



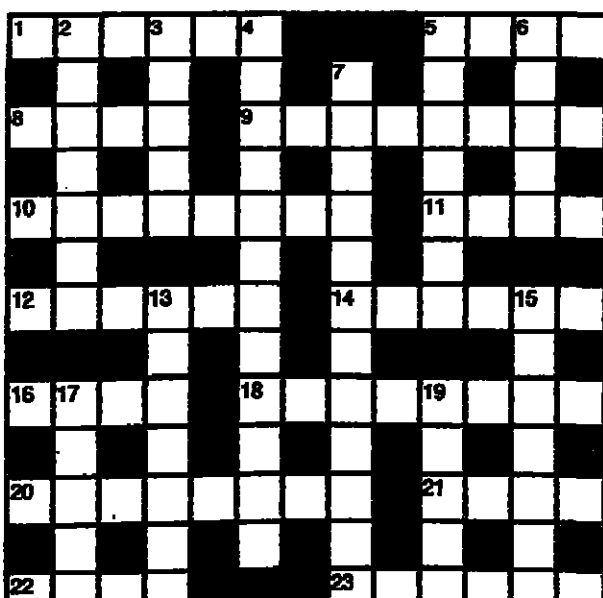
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### TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 376

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ACROSS                                 | DOWN                                  |
| 1 Flushed; busy and disorganised (6)   | 2 With precision (7)                  |
| 5 Keep; except (4)                     | 3 Old tax of a tenth (5)              |
| 8 Lack; need (4)                       | 4 Traditional teaching method (5,3,4) |
| 9 Briskness (8)                        | 5 Sultry Mediterranean wind (7)       |
| 10 Nude exhibitionist (8)              | 6 Elector (5)                         |
| 11 Rudely brief (4)                    | 7 Tiny distance, margin (5,7)         |
| 12 Word-joining dash (6)               | 13 Earth/sky intersection (7)         |
| 14 Eat leaves; flick through books (6) | 15 Hang; temporarily interrupt (7)    |
| 16 Light-skinned; reasonable (4)       | 17 Concur (5)                         |
| 18 Learned disquisition (8)            | 19 Passage for full orchestra (5)     |
| 20 Fretted; streaked with grey (8)     |                                       |
| 21 Abound (4)                          |                                       |
| 22 Lode (4)                            |                                       |
| 23 Coiffure (6)                        |                                       |

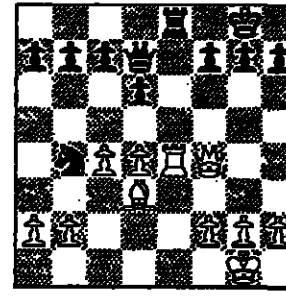
SOLUTION TO NO 375

ACROSS: 1 Dupes 7 Inhuman 8 Aligned 9 Shallow 11 Nasaur 13 Egotistic 15 Filipino 19 Gnomish 21 Rapport 23 In place 24 Proceed 25 Yokel  
DOWN: 1 Drain 2 Priest 3 Sundae 4 Kids 5 Qualms 6 Caloric 10 Hot dog 12 Uglier 14 Rivalry 16 Impact 17 Snappy 18 Embark 20 Creel 22 Tidy

### WORLD OF CHESS

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Nunn - Plaskett, London 1986. In this innocuous looking position, White found a neat move which won the game instantly. Can you see what he played?



Solution, page 41  
Raymond Keene, page 8

### WORLD OF CHESS

By Philip Howard

- |                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SKUJONG                           | STAMBAUM                       |
| a. Horse skiing                   | a. A type of sausage           |
| b. Icelandic aperitif             | b. A flowering shrub           |
| c. The Swedish shadow cabinet     | c. A family of languages       |
| TRIKINI                           | TUKAL                          |
| a. An Italian conjurer            | a. A beehive hut               |
| b. Bathing suit                   | b. University beads at Bristol |
| c. Equation to the power of three | c. Consciousness-raising drug  |

Answers on page 41

CROSSWORD BOOKS: The Times Concise Crosswords (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each), Books 3, 4, 5 & 6 NEW Book 7 £4.50 each. The Times Junior Crosswords: (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each, Concise Book £5.99), The Times Crosswords: (Books 1 to 13 £4.99 each), Books 14 to 18 & NEW Book 19 £4.50 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords: (Book 1 £4.99), Books 10, 11 & 12 NEW Book 13 £4.50 each. The Sunday Times Concise Books 12, 13 & 14 £4.50 each. Except the items in brackets, software available for all titles for IBM PCs and Acorn Archimedes computers - Price £14.95 each - plus The Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1 to 6. The Sunday Times Vols 1 to 6 and The Times Jubilee Edition. Prices inc p&p (UK). Send cheques with order payable to Adams Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE15 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.